Illustrated Midland News.

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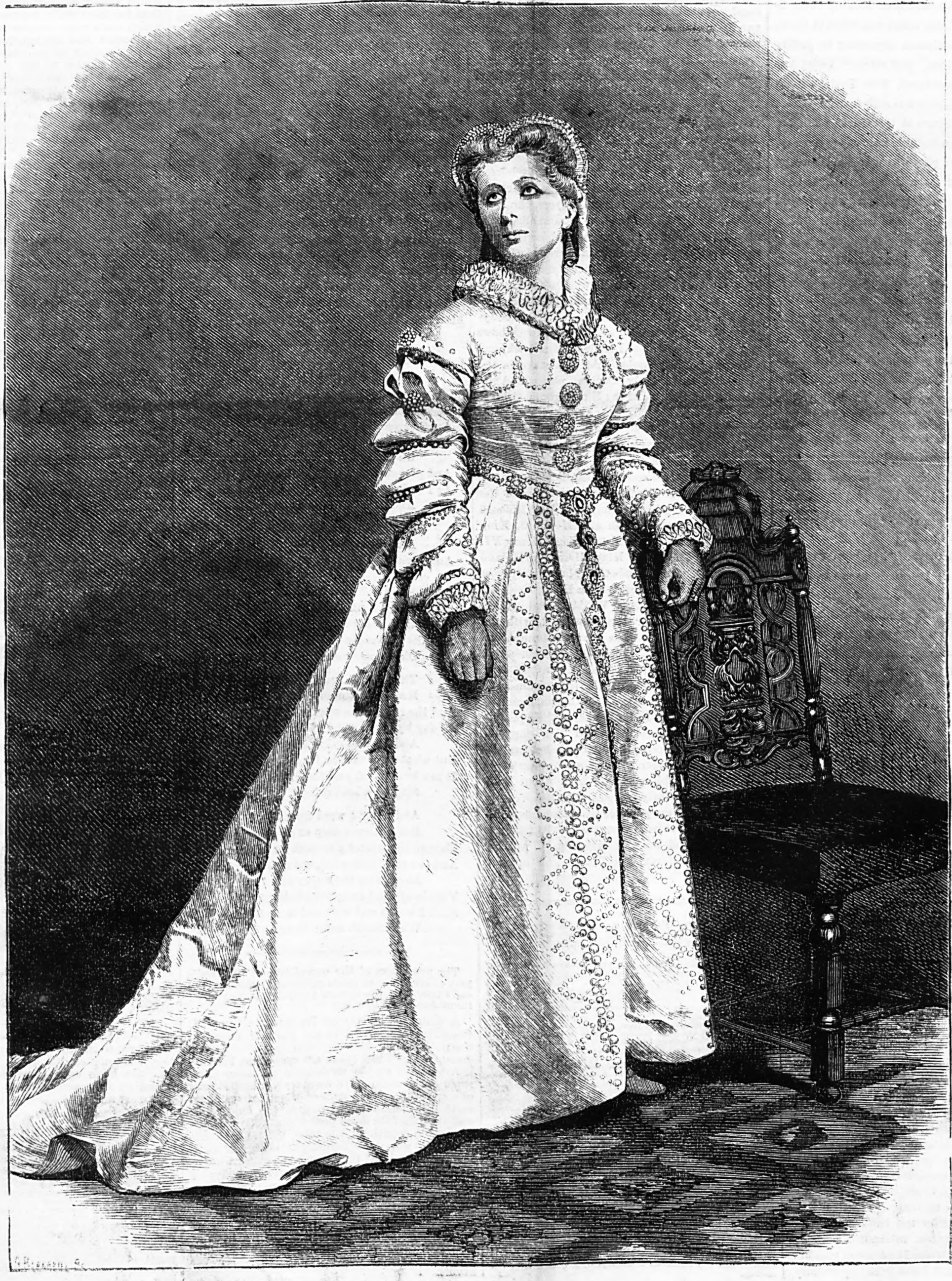


MRS. ROUSBY AS "THE LADY ELIZABETH."—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY. *(See page 34.)*

ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS
NEWSPAPER
ONE PENNY

MRS. ROUSBY.

The lady whose portrait appears on our front page is so well known that it is unnecessary for us to do more than briefly introduce her picture.

Mrs. Rousby is the daughter of a Plymouth doctor in good practice; and we may here mention a fact which is not perhaps generally known —she has several sisters almost as charming as herself. They have all, we believe, been accustomed to assist at local amateur entertainments and Penny Readings, and it was through these "labours of love" that the subject of our sketch first took to the stage.

Some two years ago, while staying at the Isle of Wight, or some other pleasant summer resort, Mr. Tom Taylor visited the local theatre, and there encountered Mr. and Mrs. Rousby. They were regularly engaged at the provincial theatre, and had never performed in London. Mr. Taylor, who is connected with the *Times*, wrote to the leading journal and said he had discovered two remarkable actors. He praised Mrs. Rousby and her husband in extravagant terms, and, with a practical eye to business, at once adapted a play for the clever people he had found in the provinces. Meanwhile, on the strength of his recommendation, Mr. and Mrs. Rousby came to London. At first little notice was taken of them, neither lady nor gentleman appearing to justify Mr. Taylor's eulogium. But when "'Twixt Axe and Crown" was produced, Tom Taylor's name as the author or adapter was sufficient to attract a distinguished audience at the Queen's Theatre (one of the most comfortable houses, by the way, in London), and the play was a marked success, not on account of its intrinsic merit, but on account of the beautiful woman who played "The Lady Elizabeth." The actress was Mrs. Rousby, and her performance throughout was of a very high character. She dressed the part exquisitely, spoke the lines with great intelligence and in a sweet musical voice. Whether as the young and graceful lady who is "the bright particular star" of her sister's Court, or as the devoted lover, the courageous prisoner in the Tower, or the great Queen at last, Mrs. Rousby carried her audience with her, as well by her beauty as by her acting. She is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful women the English stage has seen. She is a graceful and charming actress, but she wants animation and dramatic force. This may perhaps come with increased experience, and the earnestness of a deeper and more fervent study of Shaksperian parts.

"'Twixt Axe and Crown" has been running hundreds of nights. It comes to an end this week, to be succeeded by "Joan of Arc," a new piece of Mr. Tom Taylor's, in which Mrs. Rousby is to play the leading character.

THE GODIVA PAGEANT AT COVENTRY.

On the 20th of June the fact or fable of Lady Godiva's ever memorable ride through Coventry, enrobed only in her own rich and plenteous tresses, was commemorated. Our artist has caught the procession at the moment when the representative of her ladyship, preceeded and followed by a motley escort of honour, was passing through the principal street of the ancient and picturesque town. It is late in the day now to repeat the legend of a thousand years ago, of which the good people of Coventry are so proud, but yet to some our picture will need a little explanation. Lady Godiva was beautiful and pious; her husband Leofric, Earl of Mercia, a proud subject of Edward the Confessor, was somewhat disposed to be mercenary He had, it is true, established a monastery for the Benedictine order, and endowed it handsomely; but when the saintly festivals attracted devotees and holiday-makers in large numbers to the town he repaid himself for his beneficence by exacting heavy tolls. Until then the trade of the place had flourished amain by the coming and going of those who made pilgrimage to the monastery, but the tolls were grievous, the visitors grew fewer, grass began to grow in the streets, and the factors and shopkeepers waxed poor. For the good of the town those ancient Midlanders besought the noble Earl to remit these heavy local taxes, but he was hard of heart and would abate nothing. Then the good Lady Godiva, grieving for the bankrupt traders and the starving workmen, interceded with her lord, but in vain. But, like Desdemona pleading for Cassio, she would not desist from importunity, till the choleric Earl grew impatient, and declared that he would not repeal the toll till she earned for her clients the boon by riding naked through the town. Such was the modesty of the lady that Leofric thought he had placed an effectual bar upon the accomplishment of her wishes, but he was mistaken. Her goodness was equal to her modesty. Upon an appointed day, having first begged of the inhabitants to close their houses and remain in-doors, she mounted horse, and rode through the city, with her hair loose, so that "it covered all her body but the legs." Having performed the journey, she "returned with joy to her husband, who thereupon granted a charter of freedom to the inhabitants." Such was the appreciation in the town of this rare and peculiar act of heroism that none in Coventry, except one curious tailor, attempted to look upon the lady as she passed along on her palfrey. The tailor's curiosity was greater than his patriotism; he placed himself at a chink to see the fair creature pass, and was struck blind. By this miracle of judgment his defection was discovered, and he is kept in memory to this hour as "Peeping Tom of Coventry." The commemoration procession, on the 20th of June, started from St. Mary's Hall. A detachment of the 5th Dragoons led the van. Then came guards of honour, equipped in "ancient city armour," followed by the diminutive elephant belonging to Manders's Menagerie, carrying a representation of a castle; the quadruped and its burden forming the city arms. The Menagerie band was next in order, drawn by three elephants, two dromedaries, and two camels, and those were succeeded by St. George of England, in mimic armour. This famous knight, one of the Seven Champions of Christendom, is understood to have been born at Coventry. Behind him in the procession came a Knight Templar, the Drapers' Company, the Licensed Victuallers' Protection Association, the Grand City Banner, the Coventry Rifle Corps Band, the Volunteer Fire Brigade, with its engine drawn by four horses, the Watchmakers' Provident Society, a detachment of Messrs. Howe and Co.'s dyers, the Nuneaton Drum and Fife Band, a "grand allegorical representation of the four seasons," several provident societies, with banners, a chariot, fashioned after a dragon, drawn by a team of zebras, driven by a lady dressed as an Egyptian Queen, the Foresters, Robin Hood, Maid Marian, Will Scarlet, Little John, Friar Tuck, and a body-guard of "merry men," with dogs, fawns, bows and arrows, a couple of Druids on horseback, and a company of Patriarchs. At this stage in the procession came Lady Godiva, personated by Miss Rose Williams, of the Birmingham Concert Hall. This young lady rode a grey palfrey; she wore "fleshings," a short satin skirt, and a long veil, and made a very effective representative of the wife of Leofric on her errand of charity. Next the Countess rode her husband, and after him Edward the Black Prince, who gave the city its charter of incorporation; King Richard II., the Dukes of Norfolk and Hereford, King Henry IV., Sir John Falstaff, King Henry VI. and Queen Margaret, King Henry VIII. and followers, Queen Elizabeth, Mary Queen of Scots, Sir Thomas White, John Hales, Esq., Sir William Dugdale, and William and Adam Botoner, all more or less associated with the history of Coventry. The rear was brought up by a pastoral company, representing a shepherd and shepherdess, with temple in ruins, dog, lambs, &c.; "Punchinello," from Manders's Menagerie, on a war camel; and a detachment of the 5th Dragoons. In the course of their perambulations the procession passed the effigy of Peeping Tom, peering from a window at the corner of Hertford-street the most amusing stage in a journey which occupied from about half-past twelve till nearly five o'clock in the evening. Upon the whole the pageant was more entertaining than impressive; nevertheless it was not badly done, and the day was a great holiday in and around Coventry. The picture appears on page 37.

THE MIDLAND FAVOURITE.—A Lasting and Refreshing Summer Perfume for the Handkerchief.—Prepared only by A. Court, Chemist, 35, Bull Street, Birmingham. Established 1790. [676

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [684

LUXURIANT AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—A guarantee goes with every bottle of Mrs. S. A. ALLEN'S WORLD'S HAIR RESTORER, that it will quickly restore grey or faded hair to its original youthful colour and beauty. It stops the hair from falling off. It prevents baldness. It promotes luxuriant growth. No other preparation will produce the same beneficial results. Only in large bottles, 6s. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London. Also Mrs. ALLEN'S ZYLOBALSAMUM (a Separate Preparation), the best hairdressing known—makes the hair soft and glossy, and retains it in any desired position. [648

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The extraordinary range of temperature prevailing in our climate is extremely trying to the delicate-chested, the weak and nervous. All troubled by these afflictions should resolve to resort to this strengthening and regulating medicine immediately they perceive in themselves discomfort or that feeling of restlessness which betokens disordered digestion and defective secretion of bile. One of Holloway's Pills taken about noon and followed at bed-time by a dose sufficiently large to act efficiently will speedily recruit the faulty functions, and restore order throughout the whole system. A treatment so safe in operation and so successful in result should be known and practised when, from cold and sundry other causes, disease is attempting to gain a vexatious footing. [563

LAYING THE MEMORIAL STONE OF THE KIDDERMINSTER INFIRMARY.

On page 36 we give an illustration of the laying of the memorial stone of the Infirmary at Kidderminster, on the 28th ult. Shops were closed, and the town wore a holiday appearance during the day. The Infirmary is the offspring of the Dispensary, which was established in the town in 1821. In 1849 it was resolved to extend the benefits of the institution, and a building to accommodate from 12 to 16 in-patients was obtained. The advance in the science of hygienics and increasing demands upon the institution led the honorary medical officers to point out to the committee the necessity for increased and improved accommodation. At first the committee thought of altering and extending the old building; but this would have necessitated an entire reconstruction of the place, and the expenditure of a large sum in the purchase of the premises adjoining. It was therefore ultimately resolved to build a new Infirmary on a new site, and some ground known as the Cliff Gardens, situate at the top of Mill-street, was secured with this object. We should remark that the Infirmary receives in-patients from Stourbridge, Bewdley, Stourport, and adjacent places, as well as from the immediate neighbourhood, and it has claims to the support of the philanthropic in those districts which have scarcely been sufficiently acknowledged hitherto. Last year the number of in-patients was 78, and of out-patients 1,727.

The ceremony of the day was performed by Lady Dudley, who was presented with a silver trowel, bearing a suitable inscription. The memorial stone forms the cap stone of the archway over the principal entrance, and upon it is lettered in mediæval characters, "This stone was laid by the Countess of Dudley, June 28, 1870."

Speeches were made by Lord Lyttleton, the Mayor of Kidderminster, the Earl of Dudley, Mr. T. Lea, M.P., &c.

The architect is Mr. J. G. Bland, of Birmingham, and the builders, Messrs. Binnian and Sons, of Kidderminster. The contract is about £7,000, and another £1,000 is required for furniture, &c., in addition to £1,000 for site. The subscriptions amount at present to £7,500.

There was a luncheon at the Music Hall in the afternoon, the Rev. G. D. Boyle presiding.

WAITING.

THE days flow on and on,
And never one comes back.
Another year has vanished and gone,
As the waves of the sea wash out the track,
On the shining sands of th' shore.
And patience warreth, and hope is spent,
As I wait and watch for the one who went
And cometh to me no more.

The spring-time lived and died,
And the summer followed fast;
And I watched through both with a heart that cried
For the one who vanished into the past
Like a beautiful star from the sky.
Who sailed in a good ship over the sea;
And the ship came back, but where is he?—
Oh, treacherous ship, I cry.

The autumn, gold and brown,
Rose from the summer's grave.
And the rain and my tears fell down and down
As day by day I stood by the wave,
And cried aloud in my pain.
But what cares the sea for a tortured soul?
It mocks at grief, and the breakers roll,
Singing a loud refrain.

And never a word from thee!
But a silence deep as death,
Though the winter gleameth on moor and lea,
And the cold, cold wind, with its cruel breath,
Blows over the angry sea.
Yet always and ever, till life is done,
Shall I watch and wait and weep for one
Who cometh never to me.

The promoters of the completion of St. Paul's have received several subscriptions of £1,000 each, and one £2,000 from the Grocers' Company, contingent on the raising of £100,000.

A SIMPLE PROCESS OF REFRIGERATION.—M. Foselli has announced to the Paris Academy of Sciences that he has succeeded in producing an amount of cold just below the zero of the Fahrenheit scale by simple mechanical action creating rapid evaporation. He employs a wheel formed of a spiral tube, both ends of which are open, set vertically and half immersed in the fluid to be cooled, so that the latter passes constantly through the whole length of the tube, half of which is constantly above the liquid, and being wet gives rise to active evaporation and consequent refrigeration within it. The evaporation is increased by a small fan. The principle is well known, but the multiplication of the points of evaporation by mechanical arrangement is ingenious; and in hot dry weather even a disc of iron turning rapidly in liquid would produce refrigeration. The discovery is likely to be speedily followed by some useful little refrigerating implement for the household.

LITERATURE.

WAYSIDE WARBLES. By Edward Capern. Second Edition, with numerous additions. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co. Birmingham: E. C. Osborne.

We congratulate at once the poet and the public on the fact that a second edition has been called for of the "Wayside Warbles." To the poet, let him be never so disinterested a devotee of the Muses, it is gratifying to find the circle of his readers expanding; to the public it is a compliment to report that in these days, when the artificial and ingenious in poetry are fashionable, there is yet a large audience for "warbles" so natural, so simple, and so unsophisticated as those contained within the cover of this pretty volume. We often speak of the poetry of nature, and of the rare geniuses who are born to be its interpreters. Mr. Capern is not so much an interpreter, as a reproducer in words of the sounds that fill the air and of the hues of beauty that come within the scope of human vision between earth and sky. What Longfellow does in "Hiawatha" for American scenery and prairie life as they present themselves to the Indian mind, that does Mr. Capern for the quiet meadows, lanes, and woodlands of England as they exist in the consciousness of an Englishman who devotedly loves these things, knowing not why and caring not wherefore. Most of our poets, if they take us out with them into the fields, overdo us with intellectuality. The blue heavens, and green lands, and pleasant rays of sunlight, are made dim to our senses by far-fetched thoughts and remote analogies. Mr. Capern's warbles are the opposite of all this. They do not suggest reflections, but re-produce the sensations awakened in the contemplation of nature. When he gives us a song he cares less for the sequence and coherence of the propositions which follow each other, sentence by sentence, than for the faithful representation of the way in which one's consciousness may be influenced by the scenes and circumstances which form the subject matter of his lines. We do not return again and again to this volume because of anything the writer has to tell us on this topic or on that: we go to it because, without any intellectual exertion on our part, and seemingly without any effort of mentality on his own, we are moved into the midst of the scenes and placed under the circumstances which inspired him when he composed the stanzas. We shall rob ourselves of a rare pleasure and do no justice to the poet if we take any one of these "warbles" as a literary exercise and analyse it. Under that process the music will lose some of its sweetness, the redolence of flowers will be wanting in freshness, we shall fail to catch the delicate hues of nature; and the fine edge of feeling, rather suggested than expressed by the poet, will be missed. But follow the warbler to his own standpoint, and regard his ideas rather as colours upon the canvas than as thoughts, and then you will know how valuable the poem is as a direct reproduction of the influences of nature. As a specimen of the poet's faculty as an artist we may quote the first stanza of "A November Scene:"

It was a soft November eve, and a faint yellow dye,
Pale as a Winter primrose, tinged the margin of the sky;
While leaves, like brown-winged butterflies, came eddying from the oak,
And spiral shafts of purest blue curled up of cottage smoke.

These are the broad outlines of a picture. Mr. Capern paints his scene throughout in the same plain colours. He makes use of no clever contrivances of speech or curiously manufactured epithets. He does not profess to see in the sweet morning, the blazing noon, or the pale, quiet gloaming of the evening, things that are not patent to common eyes; nor are his domestic pieces concocted out of experience with which only a chosen few can sympathise. By the fireside, or out among the trees and flowers, he is the easily understood companion of the many, and not the select spirit whose utterances are riddles to all but the few. Then there is this pleasing feature in the "warbler's" work—that he imitates no familiar or unfamiliar notes of other bards. These songs and word-pictures are never echoes. Mr. Capern seems really—and not as a figure of speech or exaggerated form of expression—to have learned in Devonshire lanes, and not in books, to sing. Originality is not so much the word to use in speaking of his poetry, although there is no lack of it. There is in it just the freshness, the harmonious irregularity, the symmetry of nature without the symmetry of art, which we observe—in oil paintings and water-colour drawings but abroad. For work like this there must be many readers, and they will increase in number. For Mr. Capern addresses himself not alone to the lovers of rustic life. Of domestic joys and sorrows he sings, joyfully or mournfully, with the same plain, disengenuous truthfulness, and, moreover, with such kindness of heart and right feeling as must commend his lines to the experience and sympathy of the great mass of his fellow creatures: who enjoy life according to the plain promptings of nature, and sorrow without affectation in their affliction. So often have Mr. Capern's verses made their first appearance in the columns of this journal, and so frequently are they to be read in other publications, that we will not lengthen out this notice by quotations. In this volume will be found, among others, the pieces first published in the *Illustrated Midland News*, including the happy lines which accompanied our first coloured picture, "The Fisherman's Pride:—

The sunny bright life of the sea-gull for me!
And a cabin o'erlooking the bay.

We ought to say that, although Mr. Capern calls this a second edition of his "Warbles," quite half the book consists of poems never before bound up in a volume, and many of the new pieces are among the best of the Warbles.

WIGS, BANDS, FRONTS, CURLS, and CHIGNONS, any Colour or Price, the largest stock in town to select from, or made to measure by first-class *men*. Human hair manufactured in *all* its branches—the newest fashions at the lowest possible prices. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn*, and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIRCUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham. [591

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

The Œcumenical Council voted, on Monday, the Infallibility of the Pope.

It is reported that Parliament will be prorogued on the 11th of August.

Mr. Tillett, the Liberal candidate, was elected for the borough of Norwich, on Friday. The numbers were—Tillet, 4,200; Huddlestone, 3,844.

A young man named James Day, who was on a bicyle in the Richmond road at Twickenham on Saturday evening, was run over by an omnibus, and killed.

A recent account of some American mines says that the deepest excavation in the United States is the copper mine of Minnesota, near Lake Superior. It is 1,300 feet deep.

It was determined on Monday by the Court of Common Council to offer the honorary freedom of the City of London to M. de Lesseps, in a gold box of the value of one hundred guineas.

Prince Napoleon and suite arrived at Aberdeen on Tuesday evening from Peterhead, where he had arrived in his yacht. The Imperial party remain at the Douglas Hotel.

Letters up to the 6th instant report intense heat at Malta. The thermometer in the shade ranged from 84 to 92 degrees, notwithstanding that the wind was high from the northward and eastward.

The island of Damaka and some adjoining land in the Bay of Assah, on the Arabian coast, off Babel Mandeb, have been purchased and occupied by the Italians, and will henceforth figure as an Italian settlement.

The reed cane abounds in Virginia and the Southern States of America. A company at Norfolk are converting the fibres of this cane into paper, and, as is said, are succeeding much better than with wood.

Robert Newton, manufactnrer of the smoke consuming apparatus, Keighley, was committed to the assizes by the Bradford magistrates for bribing the smoke inspector to neglect his duty and recommend the defendant's apparatus.

This is the great Wimbledon Rifle encampment week. The meeting is a large and successful one. On Monday the ground was deluged with rain, but since Tuesday morning the encampment has been the pleasanter by reason of the storm.

On Tuesday night there was a total eclipse of the moon. The eclipse commenced at a quarter before nine o'clock, and the moon was deprived of the sun's light for five hours 36 minutes, the the longest time possible, whilst for 1h. 50m. it was totally immersed in the earth's shadow.

The chesnut trees in France are this year covered with an extraordinary quantity of blossom. If the fruit ripens favourably the yield will be most abundant, and may go far towards supplying the deficiency in the corn harvest.

A few days back the powder magazine of Santo Spirito at Venice was struck by lightening. The top of the conductor which recieved the discharge, was literally melted away and its whole length was twisted but no further damage was done. There was 600,000 lbs of powder in the magazine.

In the event of a vacancy in the Tower Hamlets by Mr. Ayrton's acceptance of office abroad, the Radicals will support either Mr. Beales or Mr. Odger, the moderate Liberals Sir S. Waterlow or Mr. Labouchere, and the Conservatives Mr. Octavius E. Coope.

The Primate of Ireland has given a donation of £4,000 to the Sustentation Fund of the Church, together with a pledge to subscribe £1,000 a year while he continues to receive the emoluments of the See of Armagh: also a yearly subscription of 2½ per cent. on his private income to those parishes in which he holds private paoperty.

The northern portion of the Thames Embankment, extending from Westminster Bridge to Blackfriars, was opened on Wednesday with grand ceremonial, by the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Louise, representing her Majesty, who was indisposed. The main roadway, 100 feet wide, follows the sweep of the river, and there is hardly a finer promenade in any city of Europe. It is to be called the Victoria Embankment.

A terrible railway accident occurred near Carlisle on Sunday night. The Scotch mail from the South was run into by a coal train at St. Nicholas junction, near Carlisle, and the result was that five passengers were killed, and twenty-five were seriously injured. The engine of the goods train appears to have been driven by the stoker instead of the ordinary driver, and it is also reported that one of the signals was not properly lighted.

Mrs. Longford Yelverton.—A suit came before the Master of the Rolls on Thursday, for the administration of the estate of Thomas Longworth, of whose will Maria Theresa Longworth (otherwise Mrs. Yelverton), is the sole surviving trustee. A motion was made to take the bill *pro confesso* against her. The evidence showed that she went to America in 1866, where for some time she had given public readings, but her address was not known.—Lord Romilly made an order accordingly.

Proposed Turf Reforms.—At the general meeting of the Jockey Club, to-day (Saturday), Sir Joseph Hawley will propose amendments to the report of the committee to the effect that no plate, prize, or public money shall be given for any race to which two-year-olds are admitted; that the 1st July be fixed as the earliest day on which two-year-olds may run; that no plate, prize, or public money shall be given for a handicap; and that hereafter no bets on horse racing shall be considered "play or pay."

The weather has been extremely hot in New York. There has been no hotter June for twenty-five years. On June 25 the thermometer was 88 in the shade and there were numerous cases of sunstroke, some of them fatal. At Portland, Maine, the thermometer was on the same day at noon 123 in the sun and 96 in the shade. At Boston, at 3 p.m., it was 94 in the shade. In Washington and Philadelphia on the 26th it was respectively 95 and 98, the average at Poughkeepsie, N.Y., for three days being 96 in the shade. At Bangor, Maine, on June 26, the thermometer reached 103 in the shade.

THE GREAT CRICKET MATCH AT WORCESTER.

On page 36 of this week's impression appears an engraving representing the recent grand cricket match at Worcester between the United All England Eleven and Twenty-two of Worcester. Worcester is the centre of a brave cricket country, and this was a meeting calculated to increase the reputation of the district. The encounter was expected to last three days, but it was played out in two, and the honours fell to the Worcester Two-and-twenty with fourteen wickets to spare. The play began on Monday the 27th ult., on the Worcester county cricket ground, Bransford Road. It was a comfortable, "brown" day, neither too bright nor too hot. There was a gay assembly of spectators, among whom were the Earl of Dudley, and the county and city High Sheriffs, Mr. F. R. Hill and Mr. H. Willis. The band of the Grenadier Guards was there, conducted by the famous Dan Godfrey, and not a word, therefore, need be said of the supreme excellence of the music. The visitors, however, for the most part were more intent upon the batting, the bowling, and the fielding than upon the refined harmony of the Grenadier instrumentalists, and even the selections from "La Grand Duchesse" stood not much chance in competition with a smart hit or a clever out. The Eleven won the toss, and had the first innings. They were: T. Bignall, J. Smith, T. Veitch, J. Selby, C. Coward, R. Iddison, T. Plumb, L. Greenwood, G. Paling, G. Atkinson, G. Howitt. The Twenty-two were: W. G. Grace, W. Gilbert, Capt. Decie, A. Reid, A. H. Hudson, A. B. Martin, F. Drake, W. Caldicott, J. B. Reybould, Marquis of Queensbury, G. H. Allsopp, Capt. Lewes, V. C. Walcot, Lord E. Somerset Capt. Ashton, C. Milward, Capt. Stone, R. F. Miles, E. Amphlett, W. Thomas, G. Arbor, A. F. Downie. The Eleven scored 127 on the first innings, and the Twenty-two scored 108 that afternoon, and had four men to go in when the wickets were drawn. On Tuesday morning the four men went in and raised the score to 114. Then the Eleven had their second innings, but were less successful than on Monday, and added only 87, making a total of 214. At half-past four o'clock the Twenty-two took possession of the wickets for the second time, and went to work much more brilliantly than on the preceeding day. At six o'clock they had nearly won the game and it was decided to go on and finish, which did not occupy more than another half hour, when 104 was made with only eight wickets down. Among the Eleven the largest scores were made by J. Smith (72), C. Coward. (45), G. Atkinson (22), T. Bignall (17), and L. Greenwood (15). Mr. Atkinson was left in at the end of each innings. Of the Twenty-two W. G. Grace was the champion who made the greatest score in the match, 112 runs. A. B. Martin made 28, A. H. Hudson, 20, W. Gilbert, 18, and R. F. Mills, 11; Martin and Caldicott, were not out. A great deal of admiration was excited by the play of Mr. Grace, who is one of the cleverest of amateur cricketers. His batting along the ground, by which he took so many runs, was not more applauded than were his "fast round-handers" in bowling, so destructive to the score of the All-Englanders. Arbor and Caldicott bowled in the same style to fine effect, while on the other side Mr. Plumb did work worthy of his reputation as the best wicket-keeper in England. Arbor is a professional player of Malvern College, and Smith is a favourite Yorkshire professional. The men of the Twenty-two who handled the bat in the second innings were Grace, Gilbert, Decie, Reid, Hudson, Martin, Drake, Caldicott, and Miles. The score of the Twenty-two was 96 in the second innings, when the question of breaking up till Wednesday or going on was decided, and six runs only were required for winning. Drake and Martin then faced each other at the wickets. Martin cut in for three, and followed with a single, and Drake was bowled out, and succeeded by Caldicott. A bye then raised the score to a tie, Martin gave the finishing stroke with a fine hit for three, and the match was ended at half-past six o'clock. So a festival day was left open, and these eager cricketers could desire no other way of filling it up than by improvising another match for the Wednesday. It was easily done. Grace picked twelve men and Iddison thirteen, and a match of one innings on each side was played, and won by Iddison's team with a score of 111 against the 108 of Grace's team. The best single scores of the winning party were—Coward, 22; Iddison, 21; Gilbert, 19; Atkinson, 18; Allsopp, 14. On the other side Grace made 46 and Greenwood 20. This ended the brilliant three days' meeting, commemorated by our artist in the sketch on page 36.

The Khedive arrived at Constantinople on the 6th instant, and paid a visit to the Sultan, by whom he was most cordially received.

International Exhibition of 1871.—A conference of gentlemen interested in the pottery trade of the United Kingdom, which had been convened by her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, for the purpose of discussing the regulations to be adopted with reference to that branch of manufacture in the International Exhibition of 1871, was held on Tuesday, in the Council Room of the Royal Horticultural Society at South Kensington. Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., M.P., took the chair. Amongst the many representatives of the pottery interest present were members of the firms of Copeland and Sons, Minton and Company, Brown Westhead and Co., Henry Greene and Son, William Powell and Sons (Bristol), Patent Plumbago Crucible Company, Messrs. J. Finch, R. Norman, C. J. C. Bailey, W. B. Phillips, Frederick Battam, Henry Doulton, J. D. Doulton, A. Barfield, M. H. Blanchard, James Pulham, and others, from the Staffordshire, Metropolitan, and Glasgow districts. At the close of the discussion the meeting adjourned to the new Exhibition buildings, the plan and details of which were explained by Colonel Scott, the Secretary of the Royal Commission. The company afterwards inspected the Royal Albert Hall, a portion of which will be occupied for the purposes of the Exhibition.

PARLIAMENT.

Among the minor matters before the House of Lords in the latter end of last week was the Marquis of Townsend's Bill to protect young children from injudicious and severe corporal punishment, and especially from being struck on the head, but the subject was so practical as to be considered trivial, and on the appeal of the Earl of Morley, the measure was withdrawn on the ground that it was not likely to pass; but the Bill for the disfranchisement of Sligo and Cashel was read a second time, after their lordships had listened to the proper amount of pleading in arrest of judgment in behalf of the peccant constituencies. The Revised Lectionary Bill was also read a second time, with slight modifications. The work of the week in the Upper House was brought to an end by the third reading of the Irish Land Bill, without a division, but not quite without protest. Several verbal amendments were made in the clauses, and one of more than a verbal character, proposed by Earl Granville on the part of the Government, rendering a tenant from year to year ineligible to claim penalties for eviction if he has performed certain specified acts inconsistent with the due relations of landlord and tenant. The amendment was to some extent a concession to the opinions of the majority of the peers.

In the House of Commons it was announced by the Home Secretary that, pending legislation with regard to Trades' Unions (necessarily postponed till next session), the short Act of last session would be renewed. An effort would be made to pass Mr. Bruce's Mines Regulation and Inspection Bill this session. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that the Foreign Office had sent £750 for the immediate relief of British subjects who had suffered by the great fire at Constantinople. It was announced, on the part of the Government, that the proposed convention with China, negotiated by Sir Rutherford Alcock, which created some dissatisfaction among commercial men in the country, would not be ratified, and then the House in Committee resumed the consideration of the Education Bill. Much discussion arose on the rating clause. Sir Massey Lopes proposed to limit the school-rate to a penny in the pound, and other honourable members raised the whole question of rating. Several amendments were proposed and lost or withdrawn, and the clause enacting a threepenny rate was passed. After the passing of a number of clauses with little discussion, the compulsory attendance question was arrived at and was warmly debated. The Government scheme of "permissive compulsion," for allowing the Education Boards, at their discretion, to adopt compulsory measures, was carried by a large majority, Mr. Forster explaining that his plan was intended as an experiment in compulsory education. A very hot discussion took place on Friday night, on a proposal made by Mr. W. H. Smith that no buildings should be erected on the Crown portion of the Thames embankment, but that the space should be left for public recreation. The motion for an address to the Crown on the subject was carried against the Government by a majority of fifty. The Government afterwards consented to the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the law relating to Friendly Societies.

In the Lower House the Lords' amendments on the Irish Land Bill came on for consideration. Mr. Gladstone stated generally that the Government in substance propose to agree with all the amendments except the alterations in the scale of compensations, the shortening of the dispensing or alternative lease from 31 to 21 years, the clause relating to permissive registration of improvements, and certain portions of the clause defining what is and what is not to be considered disturbance by the act of the landlord. In the discussion of the various amendments the House supported the Government. Mr. Mundella brought on the subject of the systematic evasion of the Truck Acts in the coal and iron mining districts in Scotland, and in other trades in the United Kingdom. In the course of the discussion Mr. C. Dalrymple said he had seen many of the evils of the truck system in the black country, and not the least of them was the low quality of the provssions the truck shops supplied for the tickets. The system was really established for the profit of the proprietors, as the report of the Commission showed, and before it could be said the workmen approved it it must be shown that they had power to make a stand against it. After considerable discussion, and a promise on the part of the Home Secretary of an inquiry the subject dropped. The next topic of consideration was unrestricted competition for offices in the civil service, in the course of which, in answer to Mr. Fawcett, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said the reason why the Home and Foreign Offices were excepted from the system of open competition was that the heads of those two departments thought it better that the new system should not be applied to them; but there could be no doubt, if the experiment worked well and was supported by public opinion, that the system of unrestricted competition would become universal. Then once again were brought forward complaints of the unsatisfactory working of the telegraph by the Post Office authorities, more particularly with regard to the service between England and Ireland, and especially between London and Dublin. The Marquis of Hartington attributed the failures, first, to the unexpectedly overwhelming increase of the business of this branch of the Post Office; and, next, to the breaking of one of the cables between the two countries; and he added that more cables would be laid down.

On Monday evening their lordships plunged somewhat suddenly into the complication of the hour in connection with the nomination of a King to the throne of Spain, when, in reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, Earl Granville made a rather noteworthy and memorable speech, the main portion of which we feel constrained to quote. He said—

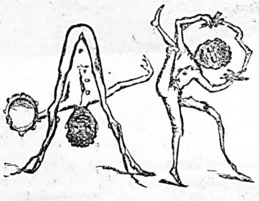
> I had the honour of receiving the seals of the Foreign Office last Wednesday. On the previous day Mr. Hammond, at the Foreign Office, told me that, with the exception of the sad and painful subject about to be discussed this evening, he had never during his long experience known so great a lull in foreign affairs, and that he was not aware of any important questions that I should have to deal with. At six o'clock that evening I received a telegram informing me of the choice which had been made by the Provisional Government of Spain of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern, and of his acceptance of the offer. I went to Windsor the next day and had the honour of receiving the seals of the Foreign Office. On my return I saw the Marquis de Lavalette who informed me of the fact which I already knew, and in energetic terms remarked on the great injury thus offered to France, and expressed the determination of the Government of the Emperor not to permit the project to be carried out. He added that he trusted her Majesty's Government, considering its friendly relations with France and its general desire to maintain peace, would use its influence with the other parties concerned. I told M. de Lavalette that the announcement had taken the Prime Minister and myself entirely by surprise. I stated that I could not admit the force of all the arguments he had used, but I wished to reserve my opinion as to the general question. I expressed regret that such strong language had been used at the outset of the affair by the French Government, but I admitted the existence of a strong and excited public opinion in France, and stated that for the reasons which he gave—viz., our friendly relations with France and our anxious desire to contribute to the maintenance of European peace—I would endeavour, without dictation and without any undue interference with the position of other countries, to impress upon them to the utmost the necessity of examining this important subject under all its serious phases. These are the principles on which her Majesty's Government have since acted. I have been in communication not only with France, Prussia, and Spain, but also with the other Great Powers, or their representatives, and I have no reason to believe that any one of those Powers is otherwise than anxious to maintain peace and desirous to contribute its share in preserving it. It is impossible for me to give any opinion to-day as to what effect those efforts may have had, but I do trust in the sense and moderation of the rulers and statesmen of Europe to avert so great a calamity as war. We all know how causes trivial in themselves, how faults and misunderstandings on both sides, have led to some of the greatest calamities which Europe has suffered, but I think there ought to be found some means of arriving at a conclusion which should avoid the result to which the noble earl has alluded.

On Wednesday Sir W. Lawson made another attempt to get a vote in the House of Commons in favour of his Permissive Bill, but he failed to secure the second reading, the numbers being 90 for and 121 against. The teetotalers cheered the narrowness of the majority.

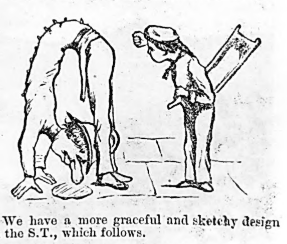
HUMOROUS MONOGRAMS.

There is a growing fashion just now for humorous monograms. Many persons even go the length of using for their seals and note paper monogramic puns upon their own name. J. L. Hatton, an eminent composer, for example, makes a hat peg of a portion of his cypher. The introduction of insects into monograms seems to have come in with the introduction of butterflies and birds into ladies' bonnets.

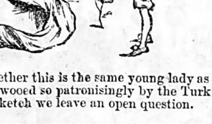
Messrs. Jenner and Knewstubb, the famous London firm, have sent us a collection of the most characteristic and curious specimens of the modern monogram which we have yet seen. We venture to engrave a few examples. Here is one for a negro melodist's note paper:—



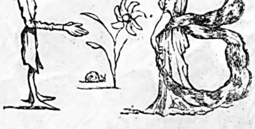
A more humorous decree is the following which is worthy of a place as an initial word in *Punch*. It could hardly be recommended for official use.



We have a more graceful and sketchy design in the S.T., which follows.

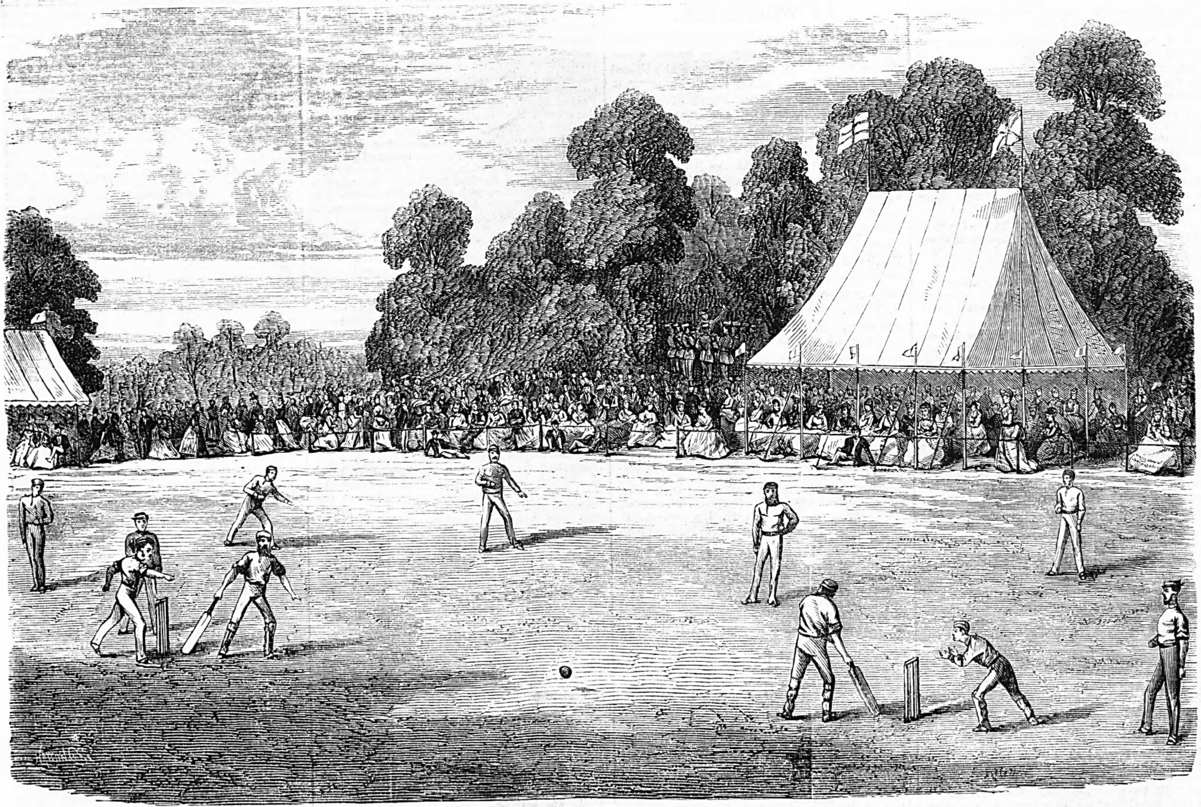


Whether this is the same young lady as the one being wooed so patronisingly by the Turk in the next sketch we leave an open question.

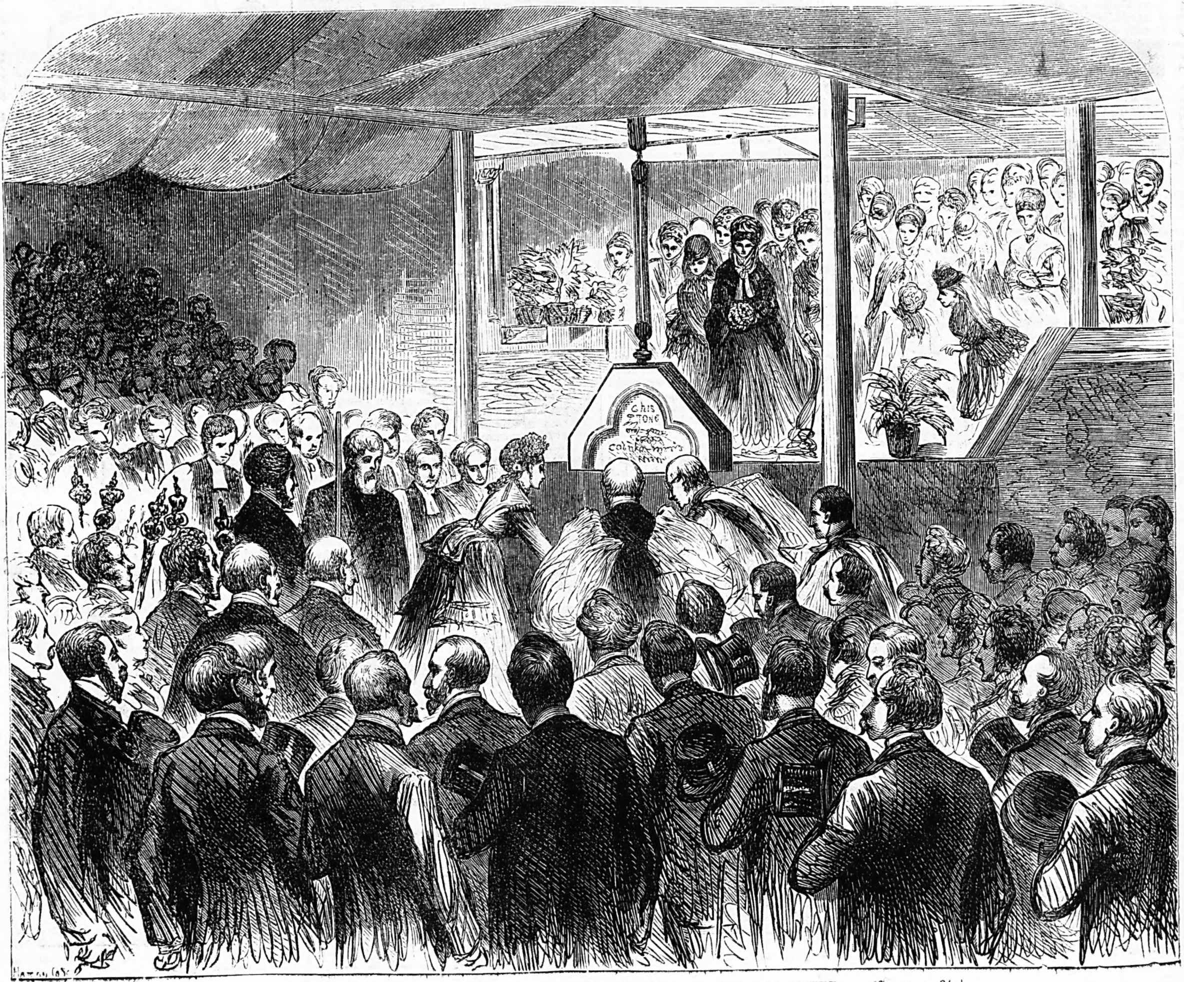


Should such be the case, we doubt not our fair readers will say the gentleman in the picturesque dress of former days is a more desirable lover than that self satisfied Turk who seems to have such a wonderful opinion of his nose.

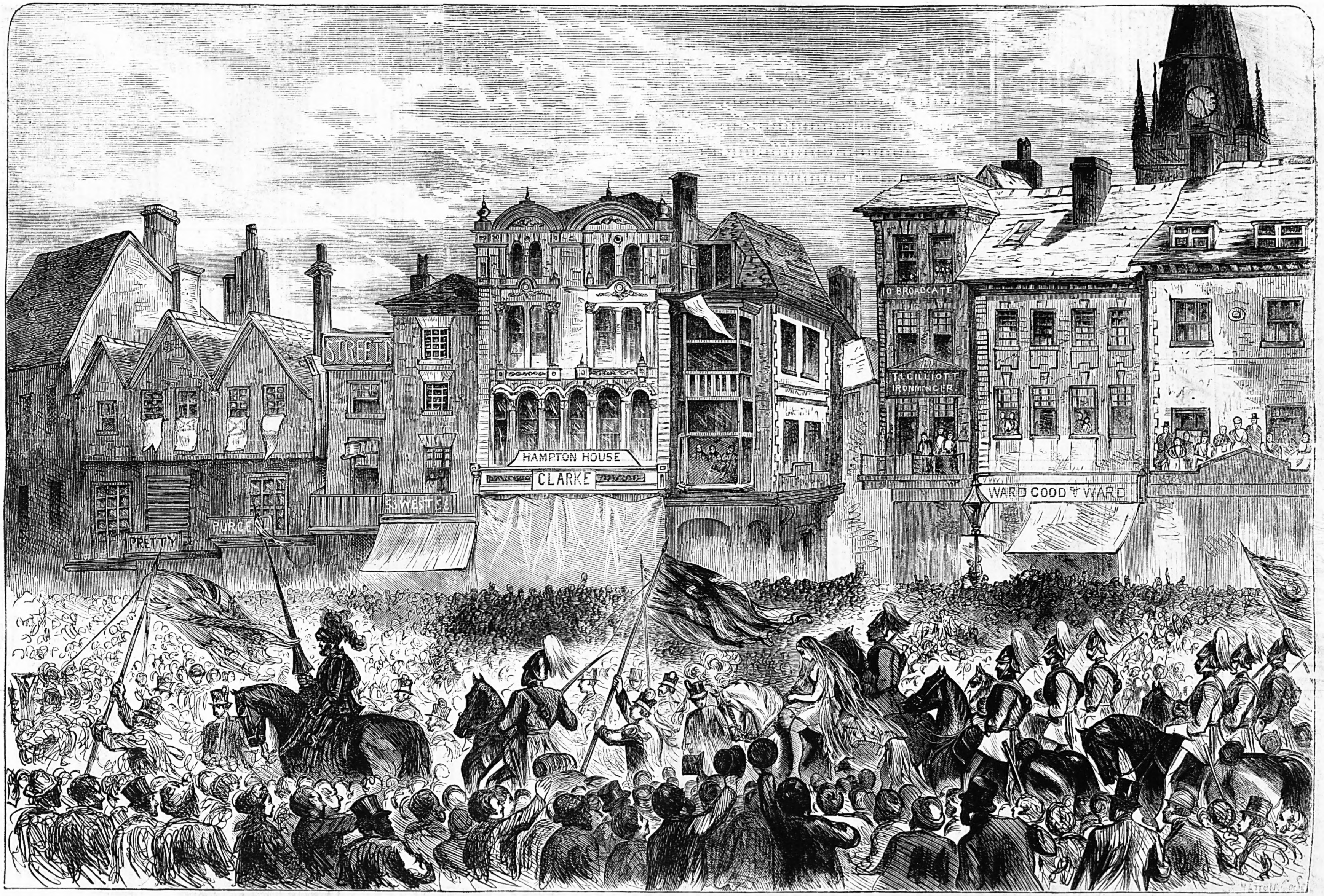
As curious examples of the mania for humourous monograms we present the above to our readers. The strict collection of the tax for armorial bearings is having a remarkable influence upon the adoption of monograms instead of arms for note paper, signet rings, and other purposes. Messrs. Jenner and Knewstub are laying themselves out specially to meet the popular taste. They have designs both "grave and gay." For this brief notice we have preferred to select from the "gay."



CRICKET MATCH AT WORCESTER. *(See page 35.)*



LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE INFIRMARY AT KIDDERMINSTER. *(See page 34.)*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THE GODIVA PROCESSION AT COVENTRY. (*See page 34.*)

MUSEUM OF INDUSTRIAL ART IN BIRMINGHAM.

It is proposed to form a Museum of Industrial Art, in connection with the Corporation Art Gallery, under the management of the Free Libraries Committee of the Corporation. For this purpose the Free Libraries Committee has invited the co-operation of gentlemen representing the Midland Institute, the School of Arts, the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, the Chamber of Commerce, and others, and the gentlemen so invited have formed themselves into a Committee, and undertaken to collect the necessary funds, to be placed at the disposal of the Free Libraries Committee. A considerable sum having been already promised, the Free Libraries Committee have agreed to meet it with a grant of money towards the foundation of the Museum.

For the purposes of the Museum it is intended to purchase (1) a collection of Indian textile fabrics, selected and arranged by Dr. Forbes Watson, Curator of the India Office Museum; (2) a collection of India metal work, lacquer work, carvings, &c., bearing directly upon the trades of Birmingham; (3) a selec- of objects of decorative and fine Art from the Museum of the Department of Science and Art, at South Kensington. In regard to each of these contemplated purchases, special advantages are offered by the Departments above-mentioned.

It is further proposed to reserve a portion of the fund subscribed, in order that purchases may be made from the International Exhibition of Ornamental and Fine Art, to be held in London in 1871.

For these purposes a considerable sum will be required, and the Committee who have undertaken to collect funds appeal with confidence to the liberality of those persons who are interested in the promotion of Art Manufactures in Birmingham. No town in the Kingdom depends so intimately upon the cultivation of taste and the application of Art principles to the products of industry, yet no town of the same importance is so ill provided with the means of giving Art instruction, by example as well as by teaching, to its employers and artisans. The formation of a Museum of Industrial Art is, therefore, a matter of prudence quite as much as of enlightened interest in Art; and the Committee hope that this consideration will elicit a liberal response to the appeal they now make on behalf of this important object.

The following are the names of the Committee, and of the Gentlemen who have already promised donations to the fund:—

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Alderman Manton, J.P.	3	3	0
Alderman Yates	3	3	0
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W. and J. Randell	2	2	0
Councillor Rolason	2	2	0
W. C. Aitken	1	1	0
Rev. C. Evans, M.A, ...	1	1	0
R. Harris	1	1	0
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THIRTIETH CELEBRATION.
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NOTICES.

The Illustrated Midland News in Paris and on the Continent.

This paper may now be purchased in Paris at 50 centimes (about 5d.) at the Kiosks, and at the bookstalls on all the French Railways.

M. de Bernardy, 8, Place de la Madeléine, is the Wholesale Agent in Paris; and will supply the paper to regular subscribers in France, Spain Italy, and Switzerland.

TO LONDON ADVERTISERS.

London Advertisements are received at the London Office, 33, Essex-street, Strand, where all information can be obtained with regard to terms, &c.

Communications and orders for Papers or Advertisements should be addressed to the *Publishers*, and not to the Editor.

All remittances will be acknowledged on a printed receipt form, *and no other receipt will be held valid.*

Advertisements are inserted at the rate of 6d. per line. Space will be measured as lines. Scale and measure may be had on application at the Office. Double columns charged at one-fourth more than the rate of two columns. No extra charge for approved cuts.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted at a uniform charge of 2s. 6d.

The Trade will be supplied with this paper in London by Messrs. Smith, 186, Strand; by Messrs. E. Marlborough & Co., Ave Maria Lane, E.C.; and at the London Publishing Office of the Paper, at 33, Essex-street, Strand. Annual Subscribers can be supplied free by post direct from the Office, 108, New Street, at 17s. 6d. a year.

NOTICE.

Volume II. of the *Illustrated Midland News* is now ready, handsomely bound, price 10s. 6d. Covers supplied to subscribers at 2s. 6d.

In our next and succeeding publications for several weeks will appear illustrations of the Royal Agricultural Show at Oxford.

The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, JULY 16, 1870.

Our horror of war is getting the better of self-respect and reason. This has been a week of bitter humiliation to every Power in Europe except France. Prussia has bitten the dust, Spain has been cruelly snubbed, England has acted the part of a coward in counsel, and has lowered herself in the eyes of all the world. Whether we are a second, a third, or a fourth-rate Power is difficult at this moment to say, and hardly worth the inquiry, since one potentate has been permitted to raise himself so immeasurably above us all. The man at the Tuilleries has become a Cæsar indeed.

> He doth bestride this narrow world
> Like a Colossus; and we petty men
> Walk under his huge legs and peep about
> To find ourselves dishonourable graves.

What have we to do with Napoleon's jealously, simulated or real, at the proposed elevation of Prince Leopold of Hohenzollern Sigmaringen to the throne of Spain, that we should get frightened at his bluster and degrade ourselves to the extent of being a party to the withdrawal of the candidature? We have heard of nothing this week but of how war was to be averted. The merits of the dispute have been of no account. The warrant of Bonaparte for his intolerable interference between the Government of Spain and the Hohenzollern family has not been much inquired into. It has been enough that France professes to be enraged with Prussia and begins to move troops. On that we have gathered about the other parties connected with the business and begged of them all round to retract, to eat their words, to acknowledge that whatever they do is done under sufferance of France, and that when France calls stop they must halt. How does the story run? Spain asks a German Prince to come and be its King, and the Prince accepts. France steps in and forbids it on pain of a European war, enraging itself with assumptions of Prussian intrigue in the matter. Ambassadors at Paris and Berlin, among whom the representatives of Her Majesty are preternaturally active, first, we will suppose, attempt to appease the wrath of the Emperor, but, finding that unavailing, immediately set about inducing Frederick William to stay the candidature of Prince Leopold. We may admit that Prussia took an interest in the elevation of the Hohenzollern to the throne of Spain. It may be that an astute Prussian statesman, whose name is unpleasantly familiar in Europe, saw in the move some possible gain to his country in the event of a future quarrel with France. Still it is the height of arrogance for Napoleon to step forward with his legions and threaten Europe with war on such slight and intangible grounds, and every Englishman must blush that his country should have taken part in satisfying his presumptious demands. At this moment the Emperor is absolute master of the situation. Prince Leopold has been frightened into withdrawal from the candidature, and the only question just now is whether Napoleon shall not insist upon apology from Prussia as well as concession! If he takes that view of his rights, Earl Granville will endeavour to extract an apology from the Court of Berlin. To that miserable part in the game of continental politics has our dread of war reduced us.

The lithographic trade has now its own organ in the press. The *Lithographer* appears for the first time this month. It promises to be a useful and prosperous work. A kindly notice of the *Illustrated Midland News* gives the number a special interest for us, while the question introduced is of importance to the trade. The editor says: "Those of our readers who may remember the first coloured fine art supplements issued with the *Illustrated London News* would do well to procure copies of each of the two coloured supplements issued by the *Illustrated Midland News*. As specimens of block printing and of what can be done by the machine, they are about the most successful we have seen. As a rule, fine art supplements have never risen above the level of 'a coloured woodcut,' and always exhibit a rawness and harshness of colour and outline painfully suggestive of the stencil slate. The gradations of the various tints, and the manner in which the artist has used his blocks in producing the utmost effects possible with the most limited means is highly creditable. When such results can be produced with the block, and at such a low figure, we had better wake up." It may be well to point out a novel feature in the production of these coloured pictures which we have introduced into the Midlands and elsewhere. They represent what may be called a combination of block printing and lithography. The first process is the ordinary block printing. This is seen in the sharpness and brightness of the work; but the tenderness and softness also visible in the more delicate details are obtained by finishing with stones on the lithographic machine. If this is not new to the *Lithographer*, it may still be worth a note in his next journal. We commend the new publication to the members of an important art trade which is yet in its infancy.

The project for the establishment of a Museum of Industrial Art in Birmingham prospers exceedingly. As we predicted, the scheme meets with unanimous approbation in the town and district, and munificent support gathers round it. The Free Libraries Committee give £100; Messrs. Elkington and Co., £100; Mr. John Jaffray, £100; Mr. A. Kenrick, £100; and Messrs. Nettlefold and Chamberlain, £100; Mr. Dixon, M.P., £50, and Messrs. Winfield and Co., £50; while Mr. William Middlemore presents £100, to be specially devoted to the purchase of the Government volume of specimens of Indian Textile Fabrics; the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists gives £50, and the twenty-five, twenty, ten, five, two, and one guinea subscriptions form quite a long list. The foundation of the Museum will be the collection of Indian Textile Fabrics, selected and arranged by Dr. Forbes

Watson, Curator of the India Office Museum; India Metal Work, Lacquer Work, Carvings, &c., bearing directly upon the trades of Birmingham; objects of Decorative and Fine Art from the Museum of the Department of Science and Art, at South Kensington. We can find no language in which more fittingly to recommend this undertaking to public support than that of those who have drawn up the prospectus:—"No town in the kingdom depends so intimately upon the cultivation of taste and the application of Art principles to the products of industry, yet no town of the same importance is so ill provided with the means of giving Art instruction, by example as well as by teaching, to its employers and artisans. The formation of a Museum of Industrial Art is, therefore, a matter of prudence quite as much as of enlightened interest in Art; and the Committee hope that this consideration will elicit a liberal response to the appeal they now make." We expect Birmingham, in this as in many other important movements, to set a noble example to the chief towns in the kingdom.

Charles Dickens seems to have had a prophetic foreknowledge of the singularly interesting scene which took place at Messrs. Christie and Manson's rooms last Saturday. An injunction of his will demanded that his pictures and relics should be put up to public competition within one month of his death. No man ever had a keener sense of the quality of his own popularity than Dickens, and he was able to picture within his mind the eagerness with which these heirlooms and fine works of art would be sought for. He gave Mr. Frith £20 for that exquisite fancy portrait of Dolly Varden, which we all remember as a ray of light in the collection at the Brompton gallery of 1862, and it sold last Saturday for a thousand pounds. It was worth the money, independently of its associations, and, considering the story that belongs to it, the purchasers have it a bargain. In the annals of literature it would be difficult to pick out an incident to eclipse that of the sale of Barnaby Rudge's raven, "Grip." The appearance of the poor stuffed bird was strangely suggestive at once of the humourous and the sad. The vivid romance was reality again in the presence of "Grip;" but the bird, and his strange master, and the magician who told the raven's story so marvelously were all dead. It was difficult then, and it is hard even now to separate the fiction from the reality. "Grip," the historical raven, realised 120 guineas. It should be in the British Museum. The pictures, principally presents to the novelist by the artists, realised nearly £8,000, and when the relics were added, it was found that the purchase money of the whole would be £9,410. Messrs. Christie and Manson's sale forms one of the most remarkable chapters in the remarkable story of Mr. Dickens's greatness and popularity.

NEWS OF THE MIDLANDS.

The annual meeting of the Archæological Institute will be held at Leicester, on the 26th instant.

The Head-mastership of Stafford Grammar School has been conferred upon the Rev. Charles Uppleby Bower, M.A., second master of Walsall Grammar School.

Visitors to the Oxford Show will find a large collection of agricultural implements made by the eminent firm of Mapplebeck and Lowe, of Birmingham.

The Annual Birmingham Rose Show was held in the Town Hall on Thursday and Friday last week. The show was good and the company large, but the heat of the weather was very unfavourable for an in-door exhibition of flowers.

Freemasonry.—The Right Hon. Earl Ferrers has been installed Worshipful Master of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. —At the St. John's festival of the St. Oswald Lodge, No. 850 at Ashborne, Bro. James Britton, was regularly installed by Bro. W. R. Holland, P.M. and P.P.G.S.W. of Derbyshire. The Brethren then adjourned to banquet at the Green Man and Black's Head Hotel.

Murderous Assault upon a Non-Unionist. —At the Sheffield Town-hall, on Friday, three unionists named Richard Pinder, Thomas Shaw, and Henry Bennett were charged with assaulting a non-unionist named William Taylor. A fortnight since the man was attacked by four men as he was going to work early in the morning. He was knocked down, kicked, stoned, and otherwise so brutually illtreated that for a considerable time he was in a most critical condition, and his life was despaired of. Evidence having been called, the bench committed Shaw for trial, and discharged Pinder and Bennett, as there was not sufficient evidence to clearly prove the case against them.

Fatal Explosion at the Silverdale Colliery.—About half-past one o'clock on the morning of the 7th instant, an explosion of gas occurred in the Sherriff Pit, belonging to Messrs. Stanier, Silverdale, Staffordshire. The of the explosion was a new working in the 8 feet seam, 300 yards below the surface, and 600 yards from the pit shaft. In this seam about thirty men were working, of whom twenty were in the vicinity of the spot where the gas fired, and nineteen were killed. The rest of the men, who were out of the range of the gas, escaped, along with the horses. In other parts of the pit there were some fifty other men, but they were 800 yards off, and were not affected by the occurrence. We are preparing an engraving of the tastrophe.

Workmen are now engaged in constructing the Ashby and Worthington Railway.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has been pleased to accept the dedication of Mr. John Francis Barnett's cantata, entitled "Paradise and the Peri," which has been composed expressly for the approaching Birmingham Festival.

Mr. J. D. Allcroft, of Worcester, retiring from business, has purchased the Earl of Craven's estate near Ludlow, including the presentations to the livings of Onibury and Stanton Lacey, for a sum considerably in excess of £200,000. He will build a small mansion on the estate.

A grand Floral and Horticultural Fête was held at Alton Towers on the 7th inst., this being the first exhibition of the season in connection with the Alton Floral and Horticultural Society. The fête was under the patronage of the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury.

The Wolverhampton Town Council have rejected the recommendation of their Free Library Committee to devote £100 to the purchase, for the Library, of one of the few copies of the great work on Indian Textile Manufacture, compiled by order of Her Majesty's Government.

Messrs. Chubb and Sons' workmen at Wolverhampton took their annual excursion on Saturday. They proceeded in vans by Compton, Pattingham, Patshull, and Albrighton, to the Cross Guns Inn, Codsall Wood, reaching there about one o'clock, where they dined and spent a a merry afternoon.

A grand bazaar and fêtes have been held at Enville, to raise funds for the restoration of Enville parish church. In connection with the fêtes a great cricket match was played between I Zingari and the United South of England Eleven, which was won by the former at one innings against their opponent's two.

The Council of the Birmingham and Midland Institute have passed a resolution expressing their sense of the loss which that society, in common with the English nation, have suffered in the death of the late Mr. Charles Dickens, and acknowledging the great novelist's especial services rendered to the Institution. The resolution was forwarded to the eldest son of Mr. Dickens, who in reply begged the Secretary to convey to the members of the Council the sincere and grateful thanks of his late father's family for this tribute to his memory.

Next Year's Show of the Royal Agricultural Society.—The Exhibition of 1871, to be held at Wolverhampton, is engaging the earnest attention of the local authorities in that great Midland town. At the Town Council meeting this week it was announced that satisfactory arrangements had been made with respect to the show-ground and the local guarantee fund. The Mayor took advantage of the opportunity to urge everybody in the town and district to do all that may be possible to render the meeting a success. It would be observed, he said, that these shows were growing in importance, for, notwithstanding the magnitude of the exhibition at Manchester, that at Oxford far exceeded it in every class except that for horses, and he was assured by Mr. Gibbs, at Oxford the other day, that that was accounted for solely by the fact that in Manchester extraordinarily large prizes were given specially for horses. These facts led him to anticipate that, Wolverhampton being centrally situated, there would be a show of extraordinary interest there next year. He trusted he was expressing the wishes not only of the gentlemen present but of others outside that every effort would be made to render it a great success, for it was one of the greatest institutions of our land at the present time. To visit, as he had done at Oxford, its 17 miles of covered space, was quite enough to impress the mind of any one, and he believed the people would never have a better opportunity of seeing an example of the greatness and wealth of our country than would be afforded in the Royal Agricultural Show at Wolverhampton in 1871.

One of the most interesting and picturesque sham fights ever known came off on Saturday at Aldershott in presence of her Majesty and a brilliant suite. The Prince of Wales appeared at the head of his regiment, the 10th Hussars, and the "march past" is described as perfect.

Workers in lead-factories are apt in course of time to suffer from lead poisoning. In France the evil effects of the mineral were usually prevented by giving the workpeople a drink containing dilute sulphuric acid, but it has now been discovered that regular potations of milk have an equally good effect.

Curious Facts in Natural History.—The rattlesnake finds a superior foe in deer and the blacksnake. Whenever a buck discovers a rattlesnake in a situation which invites attack, he loses no time in preparing for battle. He makes up to within ten or twelve feet of the snake, then leaps forward, and aims to sever the body of the snake with his sharp, bifurcated hoofs. The first onset is most commonly successful; but if otherwise, the buck repeats the trial until he cuts the snake in twain. The rapidity and fatality of his skilful manœuvre leave but a slight chance for his victim either to escape or to inject its poison into his more alert antagonist. The black-snake is also more than an equal competitor against the rattlesnake. Such is its celerity of motion, not only in running, but in entwining itself round its victim, that the rattlesnake has no way of escaping from its fatal embrace. When the black and rattlesnakes are about to meet for battle, the former darts forward at the height of his speed, and strikes at the neck of the latter with unerring certainty, leaving a foot or two of the upper part of his own body at liberty. In an instant he encircles him within five or six folds; he then stops and looks the strangled foe in the face, to ascertain the effect produced upon his corseted body. If he shows signs of life, the coils are multiplied, and the screws tightened—the operator all the while narrowly watching the countenance of the helpless victim. Thus the two remain thirty or forty minutes—the executioner then slackens one coil, noticing, at the same time, whether any signs of life appear; if so, the coil is resumed, and retained until the incarcerated wretch is completely dead. The moccasin-snake is destroyed in the same way.

NEW PATENTS.

(Contributed by Messrs. Payne and Talbot, 1, Bennett's-hill, and 56, Ann-street, Birmingham.)

Improvements in machinery for breaking and softening flax and other fibrous materials, which improvements are also applicable to calendering rollers and other purposes where a combined reciprocating rotary motion can be employed. T. R. H. Fisken, Leeds.

Improvements in the manufacture of shot and in apparatus employed therein. G. Lampen, Wylam, Northumberland,

Improvements in machines for sizing yarn. H. B. Barlow, Manchester. (A communication from W. Lancaster, Connstadt, Wurtemberg.)

Improvements in the treatment of zyloidine to be employed for purposes useful in the arts. D. Spill, London.

Improvements in the manufacture of chains and chain cables, and in machinery for the same. A. M. Clark, London. (A communication from Augustin C. David, Boulevard St. Martin, Paris.)

Improvements in producing heat and light. C. F. Varley, Beckenham, Kent, and T. A. Rochussen, London.

An improved method of and apparatus for operating railway switches. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from A. Schnabel and T. Hemming, Baden, Germany.)

Improvements in the construction of knitting machines. A. V. Newton, London. (A communication from H. V. Hartz and J. Feiss, Ohio, U.S.)

Improvements in the construction of the permanent way of railways. E. Leigh, Manchester.

A new and useful machine for moulding, rounding, channelling, aud stamping the soles of boots and shoes. A Jeffers, Lynn, Massachusetts, U.S.

Improvements in embroidering machinery. J. L. Horton, London. (Partly a communication from J. U. Billwiller, Switzerland.)

Improvements in the construction of furnaces to effect consumption of smoke and saving of fuel. G. Jones, Poplar, Middlesex.

Improvements in pumps and apparatus for raising water and sand, mud, or other disintegrated substances. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from B. H. Jenks, Philadelphia, U.S.)

Improvements in apparatus for working and locking railway switches and signals. W. Smith, Manchester.

Improvements in velocipedes. J. Plaskitt, London. (A communication from C. D. Irvine, New Zealand.)

Improvements in the production of prussiate of potash, prussiate of soda, and prussian blue. P. Spence, Manchester.

Improvements in machinery for sewing boots and shoes. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from C. Goodyear, jun., New York, U.S.)

Improvements in or applicable to centrifugal drying machines, or hydro-extractors. G. W. Wigner, London.

Improvements in machinery for cutting turnips and other roots. B. Perowne, Great Snoring, Norfolk.

Improvements in ships and vessels. T. A. de Carvalho, Lee, Kent.

(Patents upon which the £50 Stamp Duty has been paid.)

A new or improved plug valve. J. M. McGeorge, Ireland, and A. Paul, Liverpool.

Improvements in haymaking machines. W. Andrews, Melksham, Wiltshire.

Improvements in means or apparatus used in effecting telegraphic communications. W. S. Andrews, London.

Improvements in drying wheat and other grain and pulse and seeds, and in apparatus employed therein. J. N. Patman and H. M. Davey, Colchester, Essex.

Improvements in the framing of lighthouse lanterns, and of the optical apparatus of lighthouses. D. M. Henderson, Smethwick, Staffordshire.

Improvements in power looms. E. B. Bigelow, Dublin.

Improvements in machinery for bending, straightening, and punching rods, bars, and other articles of metal. W. Barningham and J. Thompson, Pendleton, Lancashire.

Improvements in the means or mode of ventilating the interior of railway and other carriages, cabins, and holds of ships, and other enclosed spaces. A. Buckingham Ibbotson, Sheffield. (A communication from S. Vecchy, Turin, Italy.)

Hitherto no means have been found of curing opium-eaters of their propensity for the drug, but the experiments of Dr. Webster, an American physician, seem to show that the administration of belladonna is likely to be an efficient remedy.—*Athenæum.*

Pure Water.—Professor Runge has made some observations on the purification of water, which offer some interesting points. His conclusion is that metallic iron offers the readiest and simplest means of disinfecting water, and of preserving it fresh. Thames water taken to sea in iron tanks soon becomes perfectly sweet, and remains so through a long voyage. A small piece of sheet iron or some nails placed in the water in which cut flowers are put will keep the water sweet, and the flowers fresh for a long time. He also put some iron filings in a vessel with a very small quantity of water, and placed a leech therein, and found the water quite fresh and the leech healthy after six months had passed.

Important.—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent saved in value. [537

Rosseter's Hair Restorer is the only preparation which can be confidently relied upon for restoring grey hair to its original colour. It assists nature in supplying the colouring properties which may have become deficient through age or disease. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle. [628

Gentlemen, desirous of having their Linens dressed to perfection, should supply their Laundresses with the "Glenfield Starch," which imparts a brilliancy and elasticity gratifying alike to the senses of sight and touch. [710

Pure Water.—Alfred Bird, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new Carbon Filter, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester Street, Birmingham. [930

GOSSIP.

An exhibition will be held next season of the works of Mr. Dante Rossetti.

The life of Barham, author of "The Ingoldsby Legends," is being written by his son.

Mr. Edmund Falconer has returned to England from America.

A second edition of "Little Willie; and Other Poems on Children," by Matthias Barr, is announced.

It has been stated that our two opera houses have so far made a loss of £20,000 between them for the season.

Edwin Adams has been playing "Hamlet" in the Opera House, Detroit, Michigan, with his customary good success.

M. Bellevaut, formerly Director of the Gymnase theatre at Marseilles, has undertaken the management of the theatre in Cairo.

A new and particularly successful photograph of Mr. Josiah Mason, the philanthropist, is just issued by H. Penn of Birmingham.

Wilkie Collins is engaged in dramatising his novel, "Man and Wife," which is rich in dramatic incidents, and full of novelty.

The Harleian Society, which is now in a flourishing state, will shortly publish "Visitations" of Oxfordshire and Nottingham.

A rumour is current in Paris that Mr. Strange has taken the Châtelet, for the purpose of converting it into a large establishment like the Alhambra.

"The Lancashire Lass" has enjoyed a triumphant success at the Theatre Royal Edinburgh, the famous steamboat scene being loudly *encored.*

Mr. Charles Mathews has appeared at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, in "If I had but a Thousand a Year," "Cool as a Cucumber," and "Little Toddlekins."

Lamartine, says the *Athenæum*, left among his MSS. carefully written memoirs of his mother and of himself. The first life is complete; the autobiography s said to be a noble fragment.

M. Nicolins has been tempted by the managers of the San Carlos, at Lisbon, to quit the Italion Opera House in Paris, the terms for the tenor being £3,200 for five months, and a benefit.

M. Guizot is illustrating the history of France with stories "Racontée à mes petits enfants," after ther the manner of Scott's "Tales of a Grandfather." The work will stop short at 1789.

The Grand Cross of India is to be conferred on on M. de Lesseps; and Mr. D. A. Lange is to receive the honour of knighthood, in recognition of his services iin connection with the Suez Canal.

The French are very much excited just now about the Godiva procession at Coventry, which we illustrate this week. It is suggested that Offenbach should write an opera on the subject for Schneider.

Mrs. Howard Paul took a "mammoth" farewell of America, musically speaking, at the huge Coliseum, where her vocal celebration of Beethoven fully maintained her high reputation as a lyric artist.

Lady Lytton's new novel, "The Household Fairy," is an energetic protest against the "servant of the period." The "Household Fairy," a prominent character in the story, is Lady Lytton's model "domestic."

Dr. E. Robert has published a reply to M. Spring's papers on the Cannibalism of the Early European Races. He considers that the evidence which has been produced breaks down when the cave bones are more closely examined.

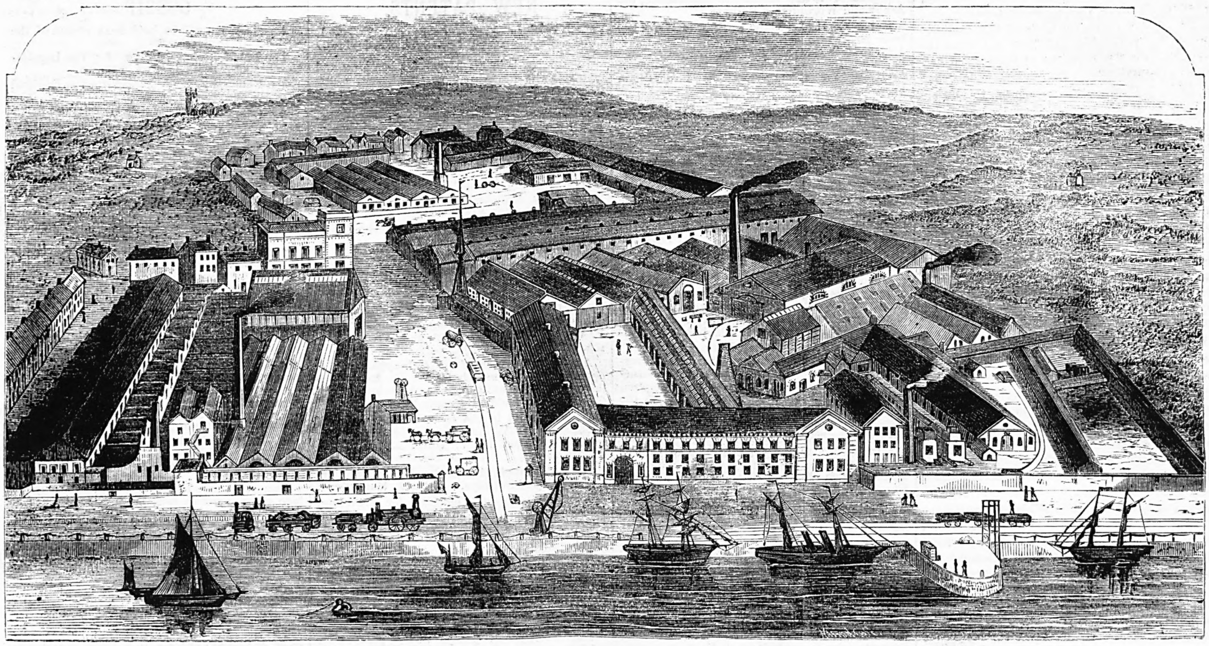
The Italian musical journals give enthusiastic accounts of the production at Genoa of Signor Petrella's opera on the subject of "I Promessi Sposi." At the second representation the maestro was recalled forty-five times after one particular romance. At the third representation the same *furore* was manifested.

The *Illustrated Midland News* has been giving some specimens of the style of illustrations peculiar to "Phiz," the artist whose pencil contributed so largely to the success of Charles Dickens's works. This is as it should be. "Phiz" has not yet received the meed of national recognition to which he is so well entitled.—*The London Figaro.*

It is proposed to publish a volume of biographical sketches of the first two hundred and twenty-five graduates of Harvard. The chief names would be those of Presidents Willard, Mather, Hoar, Oakes, and Rogers; of Starkey, the alchemist, of Sir George Downing, of Wigglesworth, author of the "Day of Doom," of Hubbard, Burroughs, Dudley, Stoughton, Pierson, Bulkley, Hobart, Stoddard, Winthrop, Sewell, Shepard, Cotton, Chauncy, Whiting, Woodbridge, Danforth, Cooke, Bradstreet, and Saltonstall.

The *London Figaro* observes that "Mr. Edmund Yates is not above writing a London letter every week to a little paper printed at Malvern. And, what is more, Mr. Yates signs his contributions with his name at full length, which, by the way, the local editor also prints at the head of the letter, so that the respected name of Edmund Yates is in a fair way of becoming known at Malvern." *Figaro* does not appear to be aware of the circumstances under which Mr. Yates's letters appear in small provincial journals. They are farmed by a great London advertising agent, who provides the local editor with a column of Edmund Yates in consideration of the insertion of a column of London advertisements. The same London letter, signed by the author of "Black Sheep," appears on the same date in a large number of provincial journals in different parts of the kingdom.

The Opening of the Workmen's Exhibition.—At ten o'clock this (Saturday) morning, five hours before the time fixed for the opening of the Workmen's International Exhibition by the Prince of Wales, the working men who are delegates from working men's clubs and institutes will hold a conference in Berner's Hall, Agricultural Hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Lichfield. Ten subjects are set down for discussion. 1. What are the essential conditions of success and the principal causes of failure in the management of working men's clubs? 2. What are the best means of making them self-supporting? 3. How to make the clubs useful and attractive to the members in summer time? 4. What is the best mode of providing instruction in these institutions, and of what description should the instruction be? 5. Can the clubs be used for the organisation of a National Labour Registry? 6. What measures should be adopted with a view to inducing Friendly and Trade Societies to hold meetings at clubs? 7. What is the best mode of promoting and conducting conferences and discussions on political and social questions, and of securing the attendance of men of all classes? 8. Is it expedient that the clubs should be made branches of a new Friendly Society? 9. Suggestions as to the points in which the "Union" can render services to the clubs. 10. Is it desirable that this society should have a special organ for the purpose of diffusing information, and as a means of intercommunication between clubs? In the evening the delegates will dine together at the Agricultural Hall.

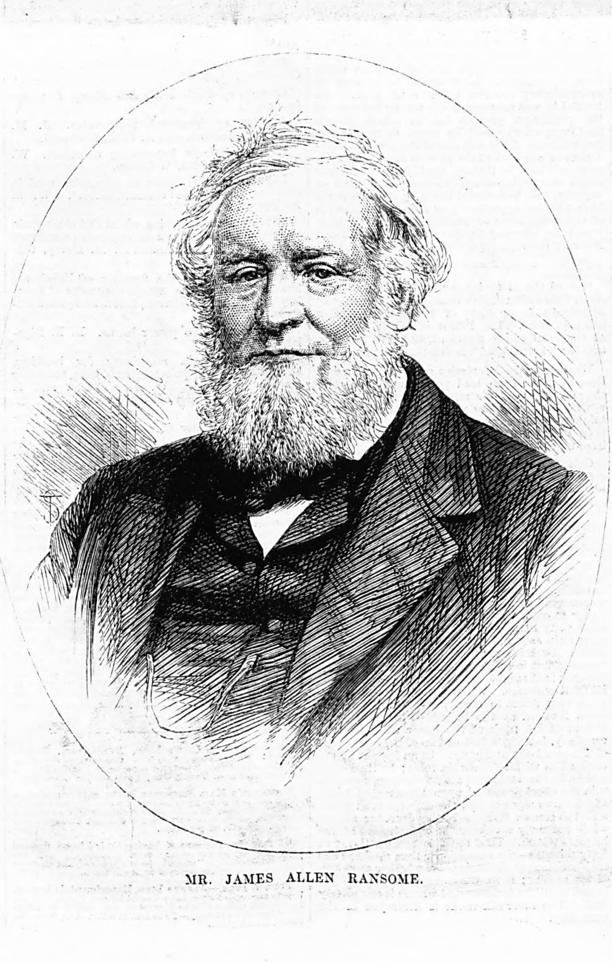


ORWELL WORKS, IPSWICH: MESSRS. RANSOMES, SIMS, AND HEAD.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT OXFORD.

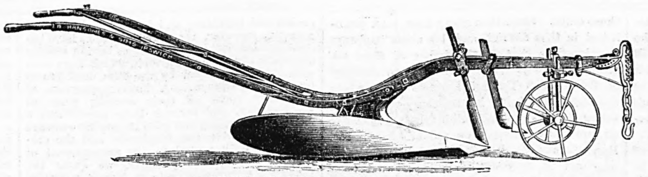
The thirty-second Annual Show of the Royal Agricultural Society opens at Oxford for the week on Monday. The proceedings of these great "Country Meetings" of the Association have grown into such large dimensions, and are of such a broad and comprehensive character that the business days between one Sunday and another are not sufficient for the carrying out of the annual programme, and hence the show-ground at Oxford has been open to the public under certain conditions during the greater part of the present week, and the judges of implements and machinery in motion have been hard at work on the field since Monday, gathering materials on which to found the award of the Society's prizes in those departments. On these preliminary days, as usual, some hundreds of theoretical and practical men, taking a special interest in the progress of agricultural science, have visited the ground, and watched the machinery under trial; but the animals are not shown until Monday, and not till then do the general public in considerable numbers attend the meeting. These Exhibitions are always great events in the district in which they are held; but that of 1870 is, in some respects, one of more than common interest. To us it is something that the Society has come this year into the Midlands, where great manufacturing enterprise, advanced processes in agriculture, and, for the most part, a rich and generous soil go hand in hand; and to the Association itself and to the city of Oxford there is this significant fact, which will set men making comparisons of the present and the past, and counting up the profits of thirty-two years—that the first show and the latest of the Royal Agricultural Society will have been held in that ancient city of learning. In the year 1839 the Association held the first of these great national agricultural shows, and pitched its tents at Oxford. How the Society has grown, how the meetings have expanded, how agricultural science has advanced in that brief period of about a third of a century only a comparatively few men know, and to those few the Oxford Meetings of 1839 and 1870 will be the landmarks. It is our intention, by means of pictorial and textual illustrations, to help to make the last of these landmarks as conspicuous as possible. Our artists are preparing sketches, not only of the show-ground, but of some of the more important exhibits, and we intend to give a series, extending over several weeks, of what we hope will prove interesting and successful pictures, forming permanent memorials of this important Show.

The history of these thirty-two exhibitions is, in a sense, the history of certain great English cattle breeders and agricultural implement inventors and manufacturers. Among the latter there is one firm which has taken so prominent a place, not only on every show-ground, but in the origin and growth of the Society itself, that we need make no apology for beginning our record of this year's meeting with an account and illustrations of its manufactory, its manufactures, and its history. Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head, of Ipswich, are not only one of the most celebrated but one of the oldest firms of agricultural implement and machine makers in the country, and to them we dedicate our first two pages of illustrations in connection with this Exhibition. On the Oxford show-ground of 1870 their stand alone forms a far more extensive display of implements and machines than did that of all the exhibitors together in 1839; but the firm was as conspicuous at the earliest of the meetings as it is at the latest. In 1839 the Society's gold medal for the best show of implements was awarded to the Messrs. Ransome. These gold medals are a special and peculiar honour given on rare occasions, on the recommendation of the judges, as an extraordinary mark of distinction. Only four have been awarded in connection with the thirty-one exhibitions since 1839, and of these two have been given to the Messrs. Ransome. There was not much railway accommodation in the days of the first Oxford meeting, and this firm sent their machinery by road. In the report upon the implements exhibited at Oxford, in the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society*, we find the following paragraph:—"The Society, at the recommendation of the judges, awarded the gold medal to the Messrs. Ransome, of Ipswich, who contributed largely to the exhibition, having sent up their wagons laden with more than six tons of machinery and implements, the superior manufacture and variety of which commanded universal approbation." Of the six pages of the official report on implements in 1839 fully three pages are occupied with detailed notices of articles exhibited by this firm. Messrs. Ransomes' machinery and implements displayed at Oxford to-day do not weigh less than seventy tons, and comprise eight portable engines and steam thrashes, besides about thirty different patterns of ploughs and some fifty other machines for various agricultural purposes. Of the firms represented on the show-field of 31 years ago only two or three are exhibitors at this show, and we do not think there is one, except that of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head, having a surviving partner who took a personal share in the business of the first exhibition. That one representative of the leading agricultural implement makers of a third of a century ago is Mr. James Allen Ransome, whose portrait we give on this page, and of whom we shall presently render a brief biographical sketch. The firm now known as Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head was established about a hundred years ago. The founder, Robert Ransome, born in 1753, was the son of a schoolmaster of Wells, in Norfolk. He was

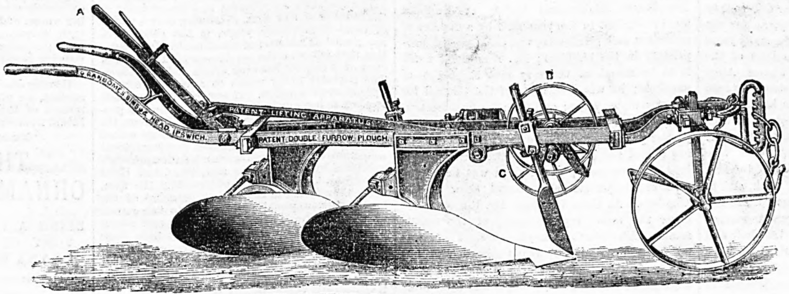


MR. JAMES ALLEN RANSOME.

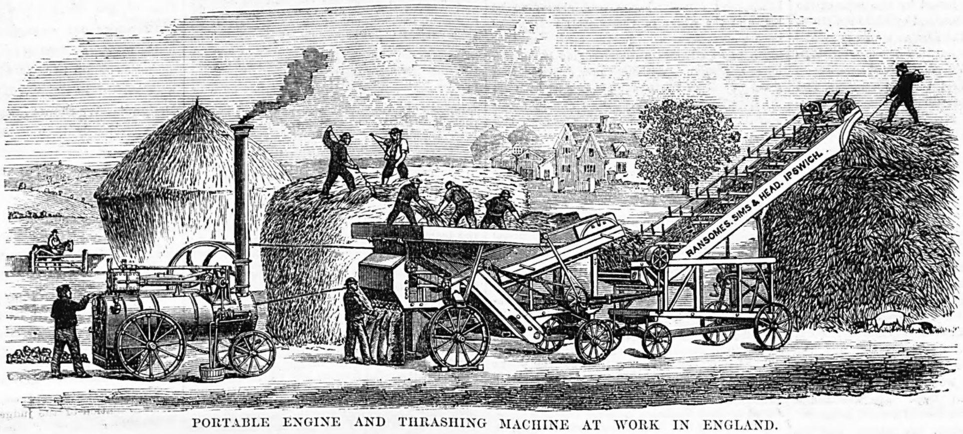
apprenticed to an ironmonger, but while he made himself master of his business his studies did not stop there. Few as were the aids to self-education in existence in those days, Mr. Ransome was an ardent student of the natural sciences, and a self-taught engraver and lapidary. Having learned his trade, he opened a small ironmongery shop at Norwich, to which he added the business of casting small articles in brass by crucible. His skill and industry attracted the attention of the great banking firm of the Gurneys, who helped him to start a small foundry at Thorpe, Norfolk, for casting in iron. With the exception of a small concern of a similar character in Cambridge, Robert Ransome's was the only iron foundry in the Eastern Counties. The Norfolk partnership was, after a short time dissolved, and Mr. Ransome determined to open a foundry on his own account at Ipswich, with a capital of £200, £100 of which was pressed on him as a loan by a friend. Accompanied by only one workman, who had been the companion of his labours and experiments, and who continued to be his devoted assistant throughout the long remainder of his life, he travelled to Ipswich, and in 1789 started business in an old malting, which he afterwards purchased. The foundation of the fortunes of this great firm was the adaptation of cast iron to the manufacture of the plough. In 1785 Robert Ransome took out his first patent for tempering this material for the ploughshare, in the hope of superseding the more expensive wrought-iron share at that time exclusively in use. He followed up his first patent by inventions and improvements, till, in 1806, he patented his famous invention for "chilling" the under edge of cast iron ploughshares, leaving the upper portion of the metal comparatively soft. This is the same principle which keeps continually sharp the teeth of the squirrel and the rat; the friction of the earth upon the soft upper layers of the ploughshare wears that portion of the metal away upon the harder skin formed by the chilling process, and the implement, instead of wearing blunt, grows sharper by hard work. This was the solution of the problem. At the present hour the ploughshare, made very much on the principle of Robert Ransome's patent of 1806, is in general use throughout the world. This invention obtained its first public appreciation of merit at the meeting of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society in 1807, and since then the ploughs manufactured by this firm have taken the highest prizes at the National Exhibitions of England, France, Russia, Germany, Spain, Turkey, India, Australia, Chili, and indeed wherever great agricultural implement shows have been held. Robert Ransome died in 1829, at the age of 77, leaving the business to his sons, James and Robert, by whom he had been ably assisted for many years. The second partner in the firm, James, was born 1782, and served his apprenticeship at the Ipswich Foundry, and then joined a former pupil of his father's in the establishment of a small foundry at Great Yarmouth. He was a very clever workman, and an indefatigable man, posting up his account books at night after having wrought by the side of his men all day. Some of his account books are preserved, wherein he charged his own time at 4s. 6d. a day as a moulder. In 1809 he joined his father at Ipswich, and in 1849 he died. The traditions of this man's feats of skill and powers of labour, his



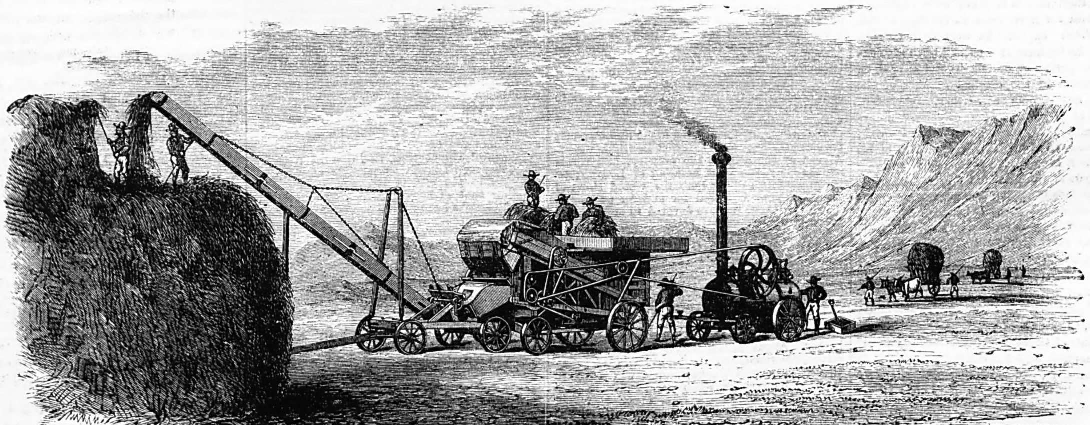
THE NEWCASTLE PRIZE PLOUGH.- MESSRS. RANSOMES SIMS, AND HEAD.



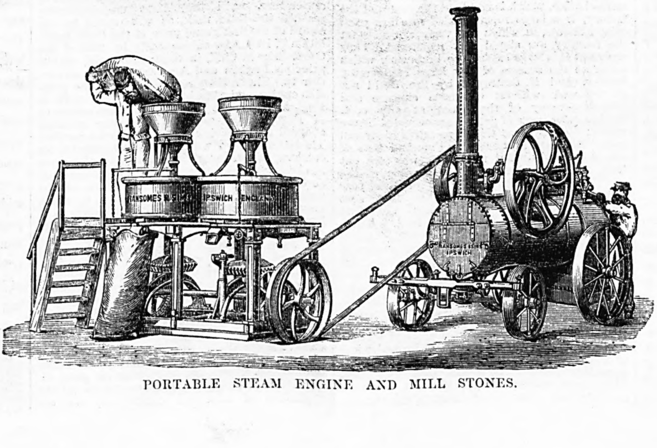
THE NEW PATENT DOUBLE FURROW PLOUGH.


RANSOMES, SIMS & HEAD. IPSWICH.

PORTABLE ENGINE AND THRASHING MACHINE AT WORK IN ENGLAND.



PORTABLE ENGINE AND THRASHING MACHINE WITH STRAW-CHOPPER AT WORK IN SPAIN.



PORTABLE STEAM ENGINE AND MILL STONES.

enterprise, kindness, and generosity, and his wonderful facility of gathering to himself the affections of those whom he employed, are still fresh in the memory of old men who were his contemporaries. Robert Ransome, jun., the second son of the founder of the firm, served his apprenticeship to his father and his brother, became a partner in 1819, and died in 1864. He was a man of great energy and perseverance, and of remarkable kindness and suavity of manner; he is as well remembered in his town and county for his philanthrophy and for the active part he took in all movements for the improvement of society and the welfare of the community, as for the prominent place which he occupied for many years as the head of his firm. The two sons of the founder and his grandson Mr. James Allen Ransome became associated in partnership soon after the business was left in their hands, with Mr. afterwards Sir William Cubitt, then with Mr. Charles May, and subsequently with Mr. W. D. Sims. During this latter period a very large share of the energy and ability of the firm was devoted to general engineering work, and to the development of two patents, one for railway chairs and the other for compressed wooden fastenings for holding the rail into the chair and the chair to the sleeper. These inventions were very successful, and upwards of 13,000 miles of railway were constructed on those patents in Great Britain, India, and Australia. At a later period the firm was joined by two sons of the second Robert Ransome, and by Mr. John Head, all of whom entered the firm as apprentices, and received a practical education in the workshops of the firm. The partners now are Messrs. James Allen Ransome, Robert Charles Ransome, and James Edward Ransome (grandsons of the founder of the firm); Mr. W. D. Sims, and Mr. John Head. At this period the agricultural business of the firm having greatly expanded, it became necessary to relieve the works of the railway business, which was accordingly transferred to Messrs. Ransomes and Rapier, and is now carried on by them at a new factory specially built for the purpose on the other side of the river.

James Allen Ransome, the present head of the Orwell Works firm (as well as of that of Messrs. Ransomes and Rapier), whose portrait appears on page 40, has been one of the best known men in the agricultural world for upwards of forty years. He was the son of James Ransome, the second of the proprietors of these works, and was born at Great Yarmouth, in 1806. He was bound apprentice to the business at Ipswich, as carried on by his grandfather, his father, and his uncle in 1820, and will have been connected with the firm for fifty years at the date of this Oxford Show. In 1826 he went to manage a branch of the business at the small town of Yoxford—"the garden of Suffolk"—and in 1829, on the retirement of the original founder of the business, he became a partner, remaining, however, at Yoxford, with occasional intermission, until 1839, when he settled in Ipswich, and became head of the firm on the death of his uncle, Robert Ransome, in 1864. Each of these four partners of the first and second generation has been distinguished by fine personal qualities independent of his great aptitude for business and manufacturing enterprise. The first Robert, dying forty years ago, is not a living memory to many in this day, but a few who knew him speak of him as a fine character, commanding the admiration and respect of all with whom life or business brought him into contact, His eldest son James, the father of James Allen, is famous in the annals of Great Yarmouth for his prowess in horsemanship and his dexterity in cricket in his youthful days, and so popular was he in after life that his death was a day of mourning for all classes in Ipswich. The second son, Robert, was one of the kindest-hearted of men, and was regarded with something like filial affection by the fourteen hundred men and boys employed by the firm. James Allen Ransome's popularity, as a master and as a public man, has perhaps, never been exceeded by any one placed in similar circumstances. In the Eastern Counties for thirty or forty years there have been few men so eloquent or genial, few such brilliant company, few whose counsel on many public questions has been so much sought after or so highly valued, and—those who know him will deem the picture incomplete if we omit it—none that could tell a story so well, or whose wit would so infallibly "set the table in a roar." Between 1833 and 1839 James Allen Ransome became interested in the matter of Farmers' Clubs, and founded, in Yoxford, the first of those institutions in the Eastern Counties. As honorary secretary of the club at Yoxford, he organised the system of discussion of practical questions, with a view to the publication of reliable results, and he assisted in the starting of some eight or ten other clubs in Suffolk and the adjoining counties. In connection with that movement he was presented, on leaving Yoxford, with a handsome service of plate, in commemoration of the services he had rendered to agriculture in the establishment of these clubs. Since then many have been established in that district, and his name is always mentioned as that of the father of them all. Everyone now is famiiiar with the proceedings of the London Central Farmers' Club, whose meetings are held in Salisbury-street, and whose debates and resolutions have sometimes an important influence on public affairs. Mr. Ransome was one of the eight or ten gentlemen who met in consultation and prepared rules for the establishment of that Club; of those eight or ten he is now the only survivor. The Royal Agricultural Society of England was established in the year 1838 by a number of noblemen and gentlemen, the chief landed proprietors in the kingdom; Mr. Ransome's name is to be found on the very first short list of members; he was a member of the Council for a great many years; and from the first meeting at Oxford in 1839, until he was stricken with partial paralysis in 1859, he never missed attending one of the Society's exhibitions except that held at Newcastle, nor indeed was he absent from any important agricultural show in the kingdom. At these meetings Mr. Ransome was never the mere representative of the manufacture of agricultural implements. There was no department in which his advice was not sought or his opinion valued. He is as good a judge of horses as of ploughs and thrashing-machines. The neatest hack in Suffolk and the handsomest carriage horses used always to be his, and the editor of the *Farmer's Magazine* once quoted from his lips the confession that much as he admired a steam-engine he loved a horse still more. Although now deprived to a great extent of the power of physical activity, his happy mental characteristics remain unimpaired: and his tact, temper, geniality, and clearness and vigour of intellect render his company eagerly sought for, and cause his advice to be as greatly valued as in the days before he was overtaken by bodily affliction. In business and in public and social life he is now, as he has been through life, equally a man of mark, respected and admired by everybody with whom he is brought into association, and held in the deepest affection by the large circle who enjoy his personal acquaintance or friendship.

Our picture on page 40 represents a bird's-eye view of the Orwell Works, Ipswich, the establishment exclusively devoted to Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head's manufacture of agricultural machinery and implements. The works nvtend 935 feet along the water side—the longest dock-frontage held by any manufacturing company in the kingdom; while into the establishment runs a system of tramways from the Great Eastern Railway. The bar iron and plates for the smithy and boiler shop, and the pig-iron, coke, and other materials are carried into the works from the dock frontage at the southern end of thes large group of shops. The smith's shop is 165 feet long and 100 feet broad; it contains 90 forges and two steam hammers. The fires are fed with air from a fan driven by a 25-horse power steam engine. This is one of the largest smiths' shops in the world. Adjacent to the smiths' shop is the bar iron store, and next to that is the boiler maker's shop, communicating with a large fitting shop for engine work, at one end of which every engine is tried under steam and its performance registered before it leavesthe works. Almost at the door of the foundry, and fronting the quay, is a large building of L form; on the ground floor of one limb the varied stock of plough fittings is stored for making up orders. Two floors above this are devoted to storing and packing, for shipment, ploughs and other field implements, which, with other goods, are loaded, entered, and dispatched from the end of this building furthest from the foundry, the railway trucks being here loaded under cover. A long gallery connects the first floor of this building with the original plough shop over the bar iron store, and under this gallery is a further extension of the plough warehouse. The other limb of this block of buildings is devoted to the counting-houses. About 36,000 letters are annually received, answered, and registered for future reference at the Orwell Works; and it will therefore occasion no surprise when we say that an office 100 feet long and of good proportionate width and height is necessary for the clerks engaged in the commercial section of the business, irrespective of another office 40 feet square, where all cash accounts, wages payments, and other manufacturing accounts are calculated. Over the commercial office, which is nearly at the centre of the factory, is a large room divided into fire-proof compartments, in which the various models for the foundry are stored and registered. They represent to a large extent the brainwork which underlies the success of any large engineering factory, and if destroyed by fire could not be replaced without enormous expense and difficulty—many of them not at any cost. About twelve acres of ground are occupied by the works; of this more than two-thirds is covered over. Between eight and nine thousand tons of completed agricultural machinery was sent out from the works last year. The value of the machinery despatched in June of this year was as great as the whole of that sent away in the year 1839, when the first Royal Agricultural Show was held. These machines go to all parts of the world. Orders have been executed for almost every country in Europe, for North and South America, for Persia, India, the Spice Islands, Australia and Africa. The catalogues and price currents have been printed in many languages of the Old and New World. We have them before us in several of the native dialects of India, in Chinese, in Russian, German, French, Spanish, and Italian. For many years the Orwell works formed a sort of centre of education and of mental and physical recreation for the men and boys employed. There were reading rooms, libraries, lectures, concerts, and other entertainments, refreshment rooms, and provident and holiday clubs. More recently, however, these organizations have become amalgamated with societies having similar objects in the town of Ipswich, which have been promoted and assisted by the firm, and joined by their workmen. A large proportion of men have spent all their working years at the Foundry, and through three generations a good understanding and good feeling have always subsisted between the employers and the employed. With regard to the management of the business by the partners, we quote the following remarkable passage from a report of Institutions, &c., presented to the Commissioners of the Paris Exhibition of 1867:—"During the long association of relatives and descendants of the founder of this firm, extending over a period of more than eighty years, it has often been mentioned as a matter of affectionate congratulation that not even the semblance of a quarrel or even of a dispute has ever arisen between them. The partners never resort to a vote in case of difference of opinion. If one of their number appears to have an insuperable objection to a proposal which has the approval of the other four, the question is deferred until the members are united in opinion." By an inspection of the magnificent collection of agricultural machines and implements exhibited by Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head at Oxford, the visitor will observe that the firm, while they do not neglect other branches of the business gives special prominence to two classes of machinery. These are ploughs and steam thrashing machines and engines, and from these classes we have selected for illustration those of which pictures are given on page 41. The first illustration represents the latest and most highly perfected form of the English plough. The "Newcastle Prize Plough," after undergoing severe trials by the Royal Agricultural Society, and passing through the different but equally searching competitions of the Autumnal "All England" ploughing matches throughout the country, has met with an unprecedented amount of success. In the rural districts of England there are few more interesting scenes than these annual ploughing matches. The fine agricultural horses belonging to the principal farmers of the neighbourhood, yoked to the best ploughs that can be produced from the farms of the district, the splendid teams of cattle harnessed to the most perfect implements of modern invention sent to compete in the All England classes, and the remarkable skill of the champion ploughmen representing the great firms of agricultural machinists, render these meetings exceedingly attractive to the inhabitants of the country round. At these matches the teams of Suffolk horse, the Orwell Works plough, the Ipswich champion ploughman Barker, and Mr. James Edward Ransome, the representative of the firm, are now pretty well known throughout England. But the Newcastle Plough, perfect as it is, does not meet all wants and requirements; a casual glance over the stand will show how divergent are the tastes and ideas of farmers in the matter of ploughs and and how widely different are the tools necessary for the production of the various kinds of crops and for cutting the furrows best adapted for the cultivation of different sorts of soil. A striking example of this is shown in our second illustration. the New Patent Double Furrow Plough, which was exhibited for the first time at the recent meeting of the Bath and West of England and Southern Counties' Association at Taunton, is thus referred to by the *Times*: "Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Head, of Ipswich, have a novel two-furrow plough, which, by means of a lever motion, is lifted out of work at the end of a furrow with the greatest possible ease, and, so far from requiring any lifting or pulling from the ploughman in turning round, rides round upon its own wheels, and may be turned end for end in its own length." This is not only very ingenious and perfect as a machine, but it strikingly exemplifies one of the principal aims of modern agricultural engineering, viz., that of relieving the labourer as much as possible of work, by utilising to the utmost the power employed, whether that of horse or steam. Messrs. Ransomes' ploughs have won so many medals, cups, and money prizes, that we cannot find space to enumerate them; it is enough to say that their trophies are far more numerous than those of any other manufacturer. We come next to the portable steam engines and thrashing machines. The engines are specially noticeable for excellence of workmanship, for their ample strength, and for the small quantity of fuel they consume in proportion to the power they exercise; and the thrashing machines for the lightness with which they are driven, the quantity of work they will turn out, and for their exceeding durability, which is owing in a great measure to the employment of a rotary instead of a reciprocating motion. It is interesting to note that this firm showed the first portable engine ever exhibited at a Royal Agricultural Show, at the Liverpool meeting in 1848. From that time to the present they have gone on continually improving and adapting their machinery to the requirements of agriculture, until they have unquestionably reached the front rank, as was proved by the award of the first grand prize at the Paris Exhibition of 1867, and subsequently by that of the Great Prize at Chili, in competition with all the principle English and American manufacturers. Our two illustrations represent—first, the portable engine and thrashing machine at work in England and in the greater part of the continent of Europe, and secondly, the same specially adapted for thrashing out grain in hot countries. The latter is fitted with a peculiar apparatus for crushing and bruising the straw after the grain has been separated from it. This is necessary on account of the strong silicious nature of the straw and the hardness of the knots in it, which prevent the cattle from eating it unless it is bruised and softened. It was not until after some years of personal study of the subject by Mr. John Head that a thrashing machine was produced capable of accomplishing these results, and hence in tropical and semi-tropical countries the old, dirty, and wasteful process of treading out the corn by horses and mules, which prevailed in the earliest times, was continued till quite recently. Had space permitted we should have liked to give drawings of several corn mills, and of the engines by which they are driven. One of the most useful examples is that which forms the subject of the last engraving on page 41. Accustomed as we are in this country to all the appliances of advanced civilisation, we are scarcely able to realise the difficulty of the position where there is abundance of wheat and no mills to grind it. Thrashing and grinding in many of the large grain-growing countries are by no means simple operations. The wheat is made into very long stacks, a complete encampment of labourers and their families is formed round it, and the engine and thrashing machine are placed at one end of the stack, and work along it for many days, while all the corn is extracted and the grain is ground. The splendid climate enables all these operations to be carried on in the open air, and the people live out-of-doors all the time. In these extensive operations the engine and mill apparatus shown in our engraving are extremely useful. So also, in sawing, in pumping water, and in a hundred other ways, the portable steam engines, first invented for agricultural purposes, are found to be one of the greatest possible assistance to labour in all parts of the world.

Having dwelt so long upon this one interesting subject, we must defer the continuation of our notices of the great Exhibition at Oxford to future numbers of this journal.

THE A.B.C. OF ORNAMENTAL DESIGN.

BEING A COMPLETE PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE ORNAMENTAL ART OF THE WORLD IN ALL AGES.

We this week continue our illustrations of Roman Art, postponing, however, a resumption of the admirably-written text which accompanies our examples of design until next week, occupying a portion of the author's column to say a few words ourselves with regard to the "A.B.C. of Ornamental Design." We cannot introduce our remarks more graciously than in acknowledging the efficiency of our representation here. The writer to whom we entrusted the historical and art explanations necessary for the completion of our story of art progress is doing full justice to his position, and we earnestly commend his observations to the attention of art-workers and art-students. When we commenced these illustrations we put ourselves in communication with all the Schools of Art in England. We confess that we have been greatly disappointed by the result. But few of the Schools have responded, although South Kensington encouraged our scheme with that laudable earnestness in the cause of practical Art Education which has ever characterised the intelligent and industrious council. No publication of such value and importance to Schools of Art has ever been issued at anything like the low price of the treatise which is weekly passing through our pages, included in the modest price of our paper. Every School of Art in the kingdom ought to thank us for placing in their hands for a trifling sum a work which they have never before been able to purchase under a guinea. At first we confess we were also disappointed with the reception which the A.B.C. met with at the hands of the manufacturers and workers in the great field of Art Industry, but latterly we have reason to feel that we had under-estimated the appreciation of our enterprise by this class of the great public to whom we desire to be useful. Several letters of thanks have lately reached us from writers engaged in art-labour, acknowledging the value and interest of our art illustrations, and we hope to have further examples of the sincerity of the popular cry for Art education. The first labourer in the field which we are re-cultivating and from whom we purchased the copyright of these drawings, sacrificed his eye-sight in the great work which he set himself. Before we have concluded the history we shall have expended upwards of six hundred pounds in these special engravings. Nothing has given the original labourer greater pleasure than the wide dissemination of his work through our pages; nothing will give us greater satisfaction than to know and feel that this tribute to practical Art education is estimated at its full importance by those who are working in the various departments of Industrial Art.

Policeman Chas. Waite, 32, Hosier Lane, Smithfield, says Dec. 18, 1868.—"Last June, my left knee swelled and pained me so I could not use it. My physician treated me for rheumatism, and in three weeks pronounced it cured. But as soon as I went on duty the pain and swelling returned, laying me up nearly four months. I then, as advised, tried Davis's Pain Killer, and in four days went on duty, and have been well ever since,

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

Nobody will deny the importance of good ventilation, yet it is one of the subjects treated by housebuilders and housekeepers with least consideration. They who are really concerned with the supply of fresh air to buildings are well aware that it is not sufficient to make exits for the foul atmosphere and entries for fresh, and to leave these to themselves; that in fact some means are mostly necessary for mechanically expelling the one and drawing in the other. A good plan, not so widely used as it might be, is to keep a gas flame burning in a short, wide tube, the bottom of which is open to the ceiling of the apartment or building to be ventilated, and the top to the external air, but properly sheltered from the wind. The heat of the flame creates an updraught, which effectually sustains ventilation. A plan has just been proposed in France, which is proclaimed as highly excellent, though we doubt whether it is so good as the method above alluded to, where the latter can be applied. The author of the French system is M. Damboise: its principle consists in the application to the ventilating shaft or chimney of a closely fitting tube with a covered top and side orifices which a downdraught cannot enter. Down this tube passes another and smaller one, which has its upper end widened into a bell-mouthed, and its lower end turned upwards like an inverted syphon. The bell-mouth is always turned to face the wind, and as this blows down the small tube and upwards out of the lower orifice, it sets up a current which draws air up the chimney, and expels it through the holes in the sides of the large tube. We may admit the efficacy of this plan while there is a brisk wind, but we suspect it would fail entirely in a calm.

The comet which we mentioned as having been discovered last month is passing down to southern skies, and, although it is increasing in brightness, we in this hemisphere cannot hope to get a naked eye glimpse of it. It has been observed telescopically, in the morning twilight, on frequent occasions; and the astronomers of the Paris Observatory have been analysing its light by means of the spectroscope and plariscope. It was found that a portion thereof was borrowed from the sun, like that of the moon or the planets, and that the rest—that emitted by the comet itself—so far as could be ascertained under the unfavourable circumstances of observation, was similar to what has been found in comets that have been previously examined. This identity of light-character, indicating identity of chemical composition, and the striking difference between the spectra of comets and nebulæ, are, say the observers in the present case, precious data which will one day enable us to determine the nature and origin of these singular celestial bodies.

If the engineer's bugbear "boiler incrustation" is not got rid of in this generation it will be no fault of inventors and scheme proposers. All manner of treatments from a raw potato to a galvanic battery have been put forth as certain cures for the apparently irremediable evil. To the long list of existing preventives a Swiss experimentalist, Mr. Weiss, adds another, which has two points to recommend it: first, that it is based upon scientific examination of the cause of the disorder; second, that it is *not* a secret composition sold in sealed packets, "none genuine without the signature of the maker." Its rationale and component parts are freely communicated through a scientific journal, without any attribute of quackery. Five parts of molasses, fifteen of milk of lime, and eighty of soap lees are mixed together, and added to the boiler water in the proportion of about 2 lbs. to 1,800 lbs. of water. The author gives the name of *litho-réactif* to his compound, and he states that it will destroy old incrustation and prevent new from forming, saponify any grease that enters the boiler, and do no harm to the metal, be it iron or copper. For our own part we have never been able clearly to see the possibility of entirely preventing the deposit of solid matter in boilers. If water, containing the elements of such matter goes into the boiler, and the only exist for the said water is in the condition of steam, which state the solid constituents cannot assume, it is pretty evident that these must remain behind as a *caput mortuum*, which will deposit itself in a crust if it is not continuously carried off.

The prevailing dryness affords a subject of study to the meteorologists, who are glad of any abnormal phenomenon as a matter for discussion and investigation. The scientific journals from the continent—where the drought is more severely felt than it is with us—contain almost every week remarks from the weather-wise recording the special efforts in their district, and speculating on the general cause. The French Academy last week received and referred to its examination-committee a memoir, in which the author sought to prove that the absence of moisture is due to the abnormally long continuance of winds from the north-east to the north-west. We need no philosopher to tell us that much; but the meteorologist in question, looking farther, suspects that there is some related or causative phenomenon to be sought in the glacial regions of the North Pole. At the best a cause, if discovered, would not be very satisfactory; the thing needful is a cure, and that is not easy to be found. Certainly, one wise-acre has renewed an old suggestion about disturbing the air by cannon-firing, the fact having been remarked that cannonading for real and sham purposes sometimes brings down rain. But it is questionable whether the drought is not too general for such a remedy, even supposing it to be available in a more favourable case. All that can be done is to profit in future by the loss at present, and by some modification of drainage systems collect a store of water, whenever it falls abundantly, reversing the proverb and laying by for a *dry* day.

A SKETCH OF BOMBAY.

Mr. J. C. Parkinson, in his "Narrative and Diary," just published, of "The Ocean Telegraph to India," gives the following vivid description of the Bombay of to-day. The sketch is under date February 7, 1870, in Mr. Parkinson's Diary:—

The morning is lovely. The sun has not gained the fierceness which will make us shrink beneath awnings later in the day; there is a brisk freshness, a crisp vitality about the atmosphere which suggests active exercise, and makes one long for a good four-miles-an-hour walk on a country road. The Ghauts, or inland mountains which form one side of Bombay harbour, stand out so clearly that the shape of the lofty palm-trees with which they are covered can be traced at a distance of three miles, whilst their undulating summits form a sharp line against the bright sky, and the slender strip of yellow sand forming a thin coast line, looks like a tasteful ornament—a trimming supplied designedly by nature to make her picture complete. The sea is calm, but not perfectly smooth. Short ripples eddy and curl over its surface, and the sunshine makes even the pale Nile-like brown of the muddy waters of the harbour beautiful. The Great Eastern is, out of deference to her draught, so far outside the rest of the shipping, that there is on one side nothing but water between her and the hills, which close in the harbour like an artificial scene; while on the other every vessel in Bombay is seen stretched in a mighty line, and as if arranged expressly to show the capabilities of the port. The rtch ey lay motionless and at peace, after heaven knows how much tossing and anxiety, with their lofty spars and rigging intermingled in the morning sun,—a mighty fleet at rest. There could not have been less than three miles of shipping in front of the houses of Bombay. . . . A white mist hangs over the spires, mansions, and cotton warehouses of the city beyond, but as this rises, the latter resumes the air of thriving prosperity which, in spite of the commercial and official wailings to be heard on every side, is the prominent characteristic of Bombay. "No one has any money; there is but little business stirring. Ah, sir, you should have been with us in 1864!" is the kind of remark a stranger meets with who comments on the many practical evidences of mercantile and municipal activity to be met with here. It pleases Bombay to be wearing financial mourning. Quite a relishing emphasis is sometimes laid upon the over-speculation which preceded the panic, and the collapse from which Bombay has not yet rallied; but it seems all the time to an outsider as if the city were not unwilling to prolong its regrets, even after their cause has been removed or modified. It is not an uncommon case. The first anguish over, the mourning is made with an eye to fashion, and the enjoyments and the conveniences of life are appreciated as much as ever. At the same time the dignity attached to suffering is not to be lightly given up; and to compliment B mbay on its prosperous air—to point to its many new buildings, its new market, its new streets as leading up to comfortable convictions of its present wealth—is to wound its susceptibilities deeply.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

FISHING IN THE DERWENT.

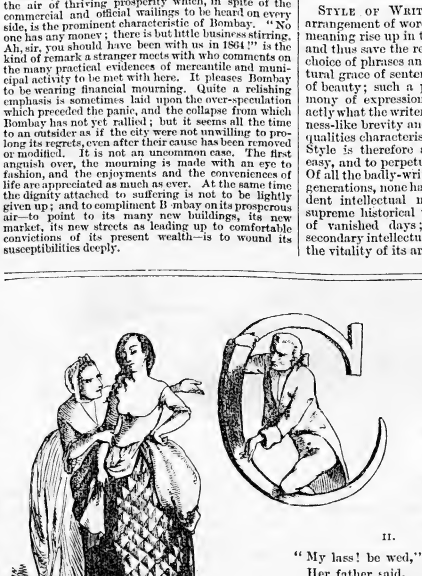
Judgment was given on Monday, in the Court of Common Pleas, in the case of Lord Leconfield and others *v.* the Earl of Lonsdale. It was an appeal from a decision of the Fishery Commissioners, given at a court held at Working on the 10th of December last, and the question at issue was the Earl's right to maintain a fishing box or coop in a dam across the river Derwent. The Commissioners were of opinion that the coop was illegal; but, acting on a decision of the Court of Queen's Bench in another case, they decided in favour of its legality. Upon this, Lord Leconfield, and other riparian owners in the higher parts of the river and the lakes, appealed. The Lord Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said that this court agreed with the decision given by the Court of Queen's Bench, that the provisions of Magna Charta and other early statutes were applicable to navigable rivers only. All the great authorities appeared to have held the same opinion. The weir in question was in a part of the river above the flow of the tide; and it did not appear to have been unlawful up to the time of the passing of the Fishery Act. Then, as to its being a nuisance, the court saw no ground for saying that a coop which was not in a navigable part of the river could be a nuisance. It came within the prescription clause of the Act, having been made by grant, and enjoyed for sixty years, or as far as living memory extended. For these reasons, among others, the court thought the Commissioners were right in making the order that this coop was legal, and the judgment would be for the respondent. As the appeal had been sent by the Commissioners, there would be no costs on either side.

RE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

The question whether a peer can be made a bankrupt, raised in the case of the Duke of Newcastle, has been decided on appeal to the House of Lords, before the Lord Chancellor, Lord Westbury, and Lord Colonsay. The facts are these:—In 1869, the respondent Mr. Robert Morris, filed a petition in the Court of Bankruptcy, alleging as a ground of such adjudication of bankruptcy that the duke had resided for six months next preceeding the date of the petition at 18, Carlton House terrace, and at Clumber Park, Notts, and was indebted to the respondent in a sum exceeding £50, and had committed an act of bankruptcy. The petition was dismissed by Mr. Commissioner Winslow. The respondent thereupon appealed to the Court of Chancery, and Lord Chief Justice Giffard discharged the order of the commissioner, and remitted the petition back for hearing. Subsequently the Chief Judge in Bankruptcy decided that the duke became bankrupt within the true intent and meaning of the law of Bankruptcy before the filing of the petition. This order was confirmed by Lord Justice Giffard who allowed this appeal At the conclusion of the appellant's case their lordships, without calling upon the counsel for the respondent, dismissed the appeal. The Lord Chancellor said that the case of the appellant had been most ingeniously argued by Mr. Reed, but the ground upon which he had gone, viz., the privilege of Parliament, rested upon a very unsound foundation. His lordship then proceeded at great length to comment upon the Act of Parliament bearing upon the law of bankruptcy, and also upon the cases which had been referred to during the arguments. The appeal was dismissed accordingly.

STYLE OF WRITING.—Style means such an arrangement of words as shall make the author's meaning rise up in the logical order of the ideas, and thus save the reader all needless toil; such a choice of phrases and balance of clause and structural grace of sentence as shall satisfy the sense of beauty; such a propriety, economy, and harmony of expression as shall tell the reader exactly what the writer means, and tell it with a business-like brevity and artistic beauty. All these qualities characterise style of the highest order. Style is therefore an expedient to make reading easy, and to perpetuate the life of living thought. Of all the badly-written books bequeathed by past generations, none have lived but those of transcendent intellectual merit, or those to which a supreme historical value is lent by their pictures of vanished days; whereas, writing of the secondary intellectual rank may be kept green by the vitality of its artistic workmanship.

JEMIMA GAY.



I.

OME dwell with me,
And we will be
As happy as the day."
"No thank you, sir, I'd
rather not."
Quoth Miss Jemima Gay.

II.

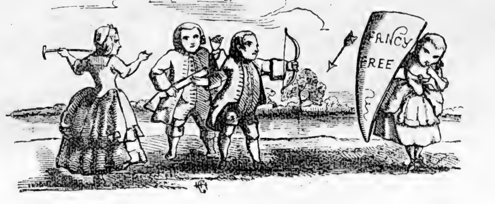
"My lass! be wed,"
Her father said,
"To this young man, I pray."
"No thank you, I would rather not,"
Quoth Miss Jemima Gay.

III.

Her mother grew
Impatient too.
"You *shall* have him, I say."
"No thank you, I would rather not,"
Quoth Miss Jemima Gay.

IV.

And still I crave
For her, and rave.
But even to this day—
"No thank you, sir, I'd rather not,"
Quoths Miss Jemima Gay.



COURT AND FASHIONABLE GOSSIP.

A telegram from Bombay states that the Prince and Princess of Wales are expected to visit India next year.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur embarked at Quebec on the 6th inst. on board her Majesty's ship Crocodile, and sailed next morning for England.

The Princess of Wales, with the three youngest of the royal children, started for Copenhagen on the 7th inst. The Prince travelled as far as Calais, and then returned to London.

Her Majesty, who has suffered much from the heat and exertions of the last few days, was compelled to abandon her intention of opening the Thames Embankment on Wednesday.

Princess Christian, attended by Lady Susan Melville, stood sponsor on Tuesday at the christening of the infant daughter of Mr. and Lady Emily Hamilton, at St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Nemours and Princess Marguerite of Orleans, their Royal Highnesses the Count and Countess of Paris, and M. and Madame Van de Weyer arrived at Windsor Castle on Tuesday, and dined with the Queen. Mdlle. Therese Castellan and Madame Rouband de Cournand had the honour of performing in the drawing-room after dinner upon the violin and pianoforte before the royal family and the royal visitors.

The committee of the Workmen's International Exhibition had the honour of receiving a visit on Monday morning from her Majesty. The Princesses Louise and Beatrice were with the Queen. The visit was a strictly private one, there being very few persons present besides the members of the committee and the different foreign commissioners in London. The two honorary secretaries, the Hon. Auberon Herbert and Mr. Patterson, received the royal visitors at the door and conducted them round the building. The royal party spent exactly three quarters of an hour in inspecting the building and its contents.

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, was present on Thursday, at the twentieth annual meeting of the Prince Consort's Windsor Association in the Home-park. Her Majesty was received on her arrival at the tents prepared for the meeting by their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig Holstein, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Bishop of Oxford, Lieut.-General F. H. Seymour (chairman of the association), the Vice-Presidents, and the members of the committee. Her Majesty was then conducted to the tents in which the handicraft, flowers, fruit, and vegetables were exhibited, and thence to the tents where 1,300 of the successful exhibitors of former years (who had dined and taken tea there) were assembled, and sang "God save the Queen." The Queen was then conducted to a dais prepared for her Majesty's reception in the centre of the group of tents, where an address was presented by the committee of the association, after which her Majesty distributed the prizes, about 150 in number.

BIRTHS.

HASTINGS.—On the 10th inst., at 51, Stephen's Green, Dublin, the Lady Hastings of a daughter.

MORRIS.—On the 10th inst., at 77, Cadogan Place, the Lady Blanche Morris of a daughter.

SARJANT.—On the 9th inst, the wife of the Rev. S. C. Sarjant, Holton House, Derby, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

GILPIN—ALLEN.—On the 7th inst., at St. Margaret's, Whalley Range, by the Rev. R. S. Rowan, M.A., vicar of St. James's, Rochdale, and the Rev. T. H. Gill, rector, Bernard Gilpin, Esq., J.P., Longford, Cannock, Staffordshire, to Georgiana, daughter of John Allen, Esq., Church Croft, Whalley Range.

HIGGINS—COUCHMAN.—On the 5th July, at Hulcote, Beds., by the Rev. John Couchman, rector of Thornby, Northamptonshire, assisted by the Rev. B. Chernocke Smith, rector of Hulcote George Higgins, Esq., of Castle Close, Bedford, to Mary Sophia, fourth daughter of the late Henry Couchman, of Temple Balsall, Warwickshire.

HARWARD—DONALDSON.—On the 29th ult., at the Parish Church, Hartlebury, Worcestershire, by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by the Rev. Thomas Baker, rector, Gainsborough Harward, Esq., of Stourbridge, Worcestershire, to Alice Julia, second daughter of the late Rev. J. W. Donaldson, D.D.

MUMFORD—ROGERS.—On the 7th inst., at St. Cuthbert's, Lytnam, by the Rev. R. F. Mumford, assisted by the Rev. H. B. Hawkins, vicar, William Arthur Mumford, Esq., of Bramford, Suffolk, to Mary Martha, youngest daughter of the late Samuel Rogers, Esq., of The Brooklands, Bromsgrove.

TUDWAY—NELSON.—On the 5th inst., at St. Paul's Church, Wilton-place, by the Lord Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. R. Liddell, Charles Clements Tudway, Esq., to the Lady Edith Nelson, third daughter of the Earl and Countess Nelson.

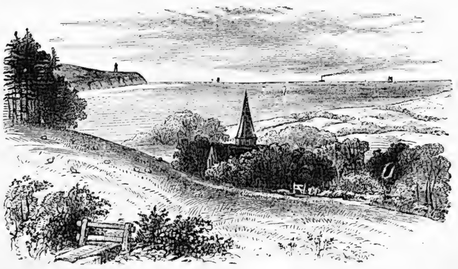
DEATHS.

ARNOLD.—On the 8th inst., at her son's, Hay Mill, in her 81st year, Johanna, relict of William Arnold, late of Bassett's Field, Langley Heath, near Sutton Coldfield.

COOPER.—On the 11th inst., at Knightsbridge, London, the Rev. Edward Henry Cooper, only son of the late Edward Cooper, Esq., of Wolverhampton, aged 35 years.

SUMMER RESORTS.

Now is the time for the sea-side! Excursion trains are dragging from the great inland towns thousands of jaded work-day folk, and snorting away with them to the sea! And many have been crushed and killed on the way in attempting to leave their homes of din and smoke for a few days quiet and rest. But the tide of life still goes hurrying, panting on to the sea! There is the pale-faced London family, and consumptive-looking clerks who have escaped from account books and ledgers—paterfamilias, who, under any circumstances, shuts up his house once a-year to give the youngsters a dip in the water; the figetty old fogey who goes because other people go; the mysterious geologist; the grave botanist, who will be happy for life if he discover a rare fern; the zoologist, gloating over wonderful actiniæ—all hastening to the sea! And we, reader, will follow in the wake, but let us consider firstly where to go. Aye, verily! To begin with we will glance at the Isle of Wight, Filey, Milford Haven, and Tenby. *Allons:*

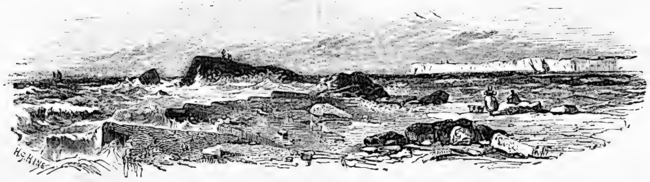


SHANKLIN CHURCH.

SHANKLIN.

A short time ago we gave an engraving of Shanklin Chine, and with it a general description of the Isle of Wight, so that we will now only refer to the church, which is the chief object in the landscape of our illustration heading this page. The foundation of the Church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is uncertain. According to different authorities it bears date severally to Stephen and Edward III. It is one of those mentioned in Doomsday Book, at which time it belonged to Brading, the earliest Christian place of worship in the island. It was subsequently held with Bonchurch, until the present incumbency, when the livings divided. No attempt has been made at architectural display, or even order, and additions have from time to time been made utterly regardless of any law but that of necessity. The cruciform outline is the result of what is called improvement, and by the addition of transepts, out of all proportion to the body of the building. The interior of the church is carefully tended, but is altogether inadequate to the requirements of the parish—seats are difficult to obtain, even in winter. This want, however, is now obviated, for a handsome new church has been erected upon the North Cliff. The parsonage is a quiet and pretty-looking dwelling, embowered in myrtles and shrubs, and its charming garden is a Paradise in miniature.

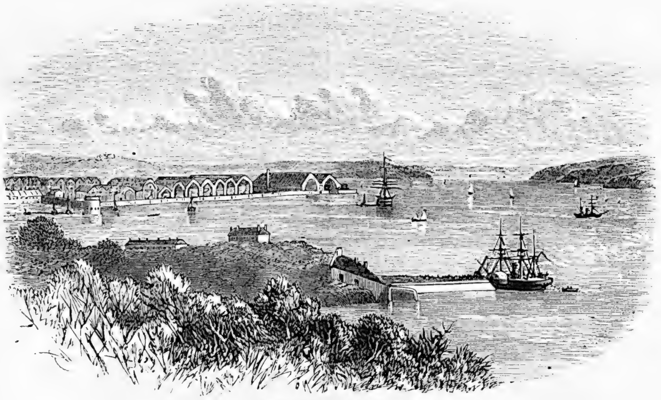
It was at Shanklin that Keats wrote "Lamia."



FILEY BRIGG.

FILEY.

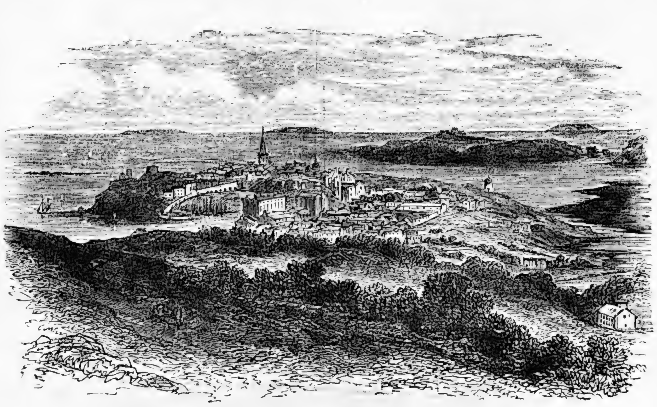
A popular and very pleasant watering place is Filey. We have some experience of the coasts of England, the drawbacks and recommendations of the various towns and villages that yearly attract the summer and autumn visitors; but there can scarcely be a pleasanter spot to our mind than quiet, cheerful, sunny Filey. You do not go there to dress as at Brighton, Hastings, or Dover; and you may saunter along the cliffs and various promenades without being gaped at by an idle crowd on the one hand, or without having your dress criticised by fashionable and gossiping visitors on the other hand. You may enjoy the sea and leave your severe etiquette at home. A band plays twice a day in the public gardens; and there is a capital *tâble d'hote* at the chief hotel, and also a spa, the water of which is said to be a tonic *after* dinner. There is no theatre certainly, and rarely balls; but the sands, five miles in extent, and the scenery make up for all shortcomings in the way of entertainments. The Brigg—a natural pier of rock, the subject of our second engraving—forms a delightful lounge. The cliffs are accessible, and command a beautiful bay, reaching to Flamborough Head, an illustration of which we gave in a previous number. The sea is deprived of any monotony by a constant succession of sailing vessels and steamers.



MILFORD HAVEN.

MILFORD HAVEN.

Milford Haven is one of the deepest, most completely land-locked, and most spacious ports in Britain, capable of holding the whole navy of the empire with ease and safety; but being in a wild district, and its situation so remote, it is of no great importance in the world of commerce. The fort on Thorn Island, which mounts ten or twelve guns, is the main defence of the Haven. On St. Anne's Head, at Dole Point, a new fortification has been built, and a battery of a few guns for the first time confronts the twin headland, and is supposed thus to command the entrance of the Haven. Every part of the mouth is navigable by ships of the burden of the Great Eastern. There is only one rock, over which several fathoms of water flow at the lowest tide, and it is well buoyed. When fogs prevail, which is often the case, a fleet might enter without being observed from either shore. The little town of Milford stands about midway from the north to the dockyard, where the Haven ends. At each low spring tide the water leaves about a furlong of the shore opposite to the town dry, save a narrow stream which runs down one of the pills or inlets, which abound on either side of the Haven. It is a port that has been much neglected when we consider its boundless capacities for maritime commerce. With the exception, perhaps, of San Francisco and Rio there is no harbour equal to it in the world, and certainly none approaching it in the Old World, and yet there exists no means of docking an average-sized American liner, or of landing and warehousing its cargo! The only accommodation the Bristol and Irish steamers have is a small floating pier. There is great absence of life and activity, but there is some wonderful scenery in the district, and it is a place to be visited. The Channel Fleet is expected here next month.



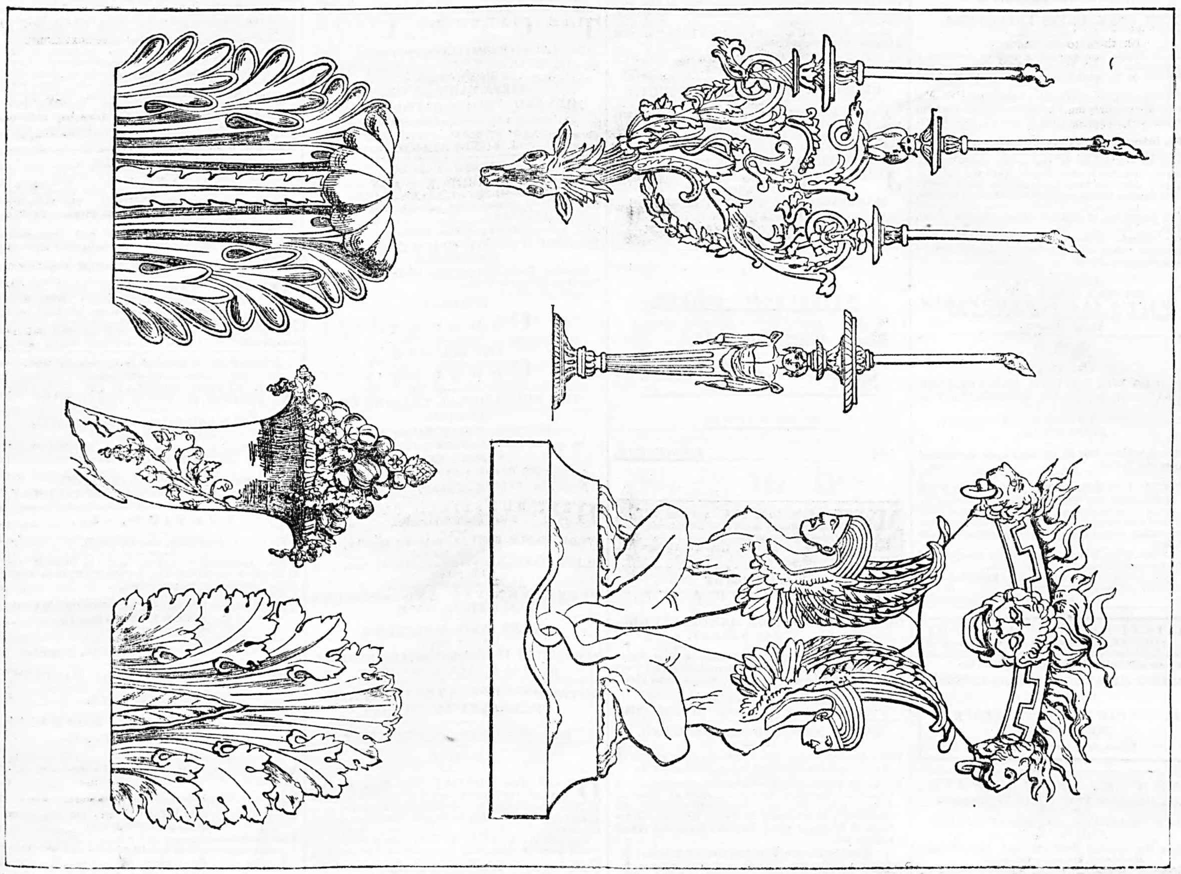
TENBY.

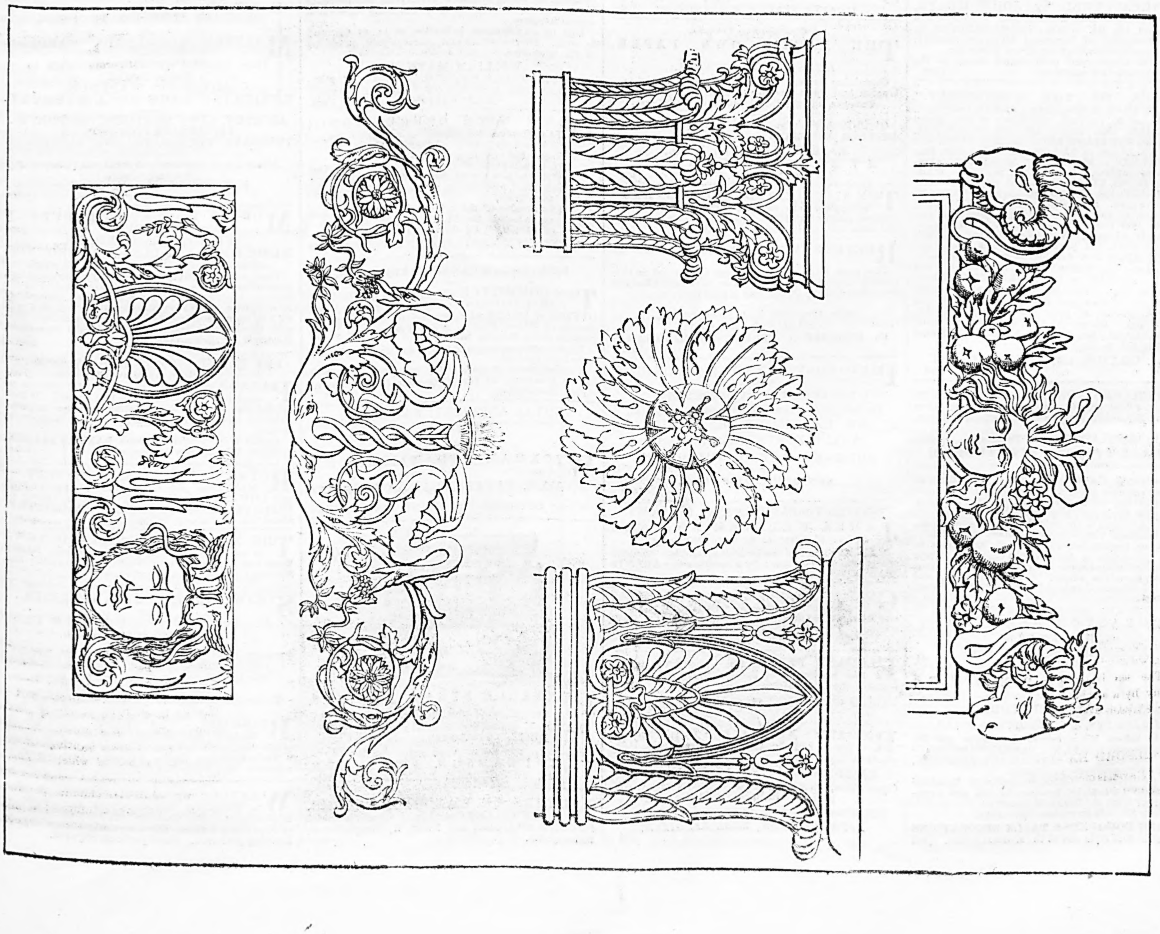
TENBY.

Enter Tenby by which side you may, whether by water from Bristol or Ilfracombe, or by land from Narberth or Pembroke, it looks well, owing to the beauty and peculiarity of its situation. A peninsula of lofty limestone rocks runs seaward with a graceful curve, backed upon the land side by wooded rising ground, and ending in a ragged and abrupt promontory. The town and its suburbs present from the bay a striking and beautiful appearance, the most conspicuous object being the church spire which is a well known landmark for Channel ships. The houses running down to the shore look so new and bright that, were it not for the old castle, one might imagine that it had only just sprung into existence; and still there is, perhaps, not another watering place in the kingdom can boast such antiquity. He must be a used up traveller indeed who cannot enjoy a summer's afternoon at high water, when he can lie on the grass and watch the waves as they come rolling in to break on the water-worn cliffs below; when almost without moving he can cast his eyes over the wide sweep of Carmarthen Bay with its graceful outline of hills, dotted here and there with white villages, and terminated by the fantastic point of Worm's Head. To the south of Tenby the coast dwindles into sand burrows, but again rises to a considerable height at the headland of Giltar Point; beyond which the pedestrian will find a slight difficulty in the way of deep water and precipices so that he must clamber up the rocks and keep along the edge of the down to Proud Giltar.

For those who are fond of boating, there is about a mile from land one of the great Bristol Channel islands. We allude to Caldy Island, which at low water is connected by a ridge of rocks with St. Margaret's. It is inhabited, moreover, by the lord of the manor, Mr. Kynaston, whose modern house is incorporated with a more ancient building, the ruins probably of a monastic establishment, that formerly existed here. A great lion for visitors is the light-house, and it is a boon to mariners, for it lights up a particularly dangerous part of the Channel highway. The brethren of the hammer will find here a fair show of limestone fossils, and an interesting junction of the carboniferous and old red sandstone formations, while at a place called Eel Point bones of animals have been discovered. For those parties with whom water excursions disagree, there are plenty of places to be visited in the neighbourhood of Tenby, and plenty of means for visiting them. All day long, carriages are rattling about the streets and terraces, from the stylish-looking break down to the funny little one-horse "chays," which are indignous to the town, and very abundant. On the road to Penally and Ledstep Caverns, you may meet scores of these small vehicles going down-hill at a pace wonderful to behold, and turning the corners (of which there are many) in a glorious uncertainty as to what may be meeting them. Penally is a charming little village, about a couple of miles off, placed on a well-wooded rising ground, and containing a picturesque church and some crosses in the churchyard, which is said to have been the resting-place of Saint Teilo, the patron saint of Llandaff.

It is unnecessary for us to enumerate the different objects worthy of a visit near Tenby. Stackpole Court with its fine gardens—St. Gowan's Well with its ruined chapel—the Stack Rock—Pembroke with its round tower—Lamphrey, where the Bishop of St. David's lived like a country gentleman; and Llawhawden Castle, where he lived like a fighting baron, and from the roof of which Bishop Barlow stole the lead to enable him to marry off his five plain daughters. Reader, you may be informed on all these points—consult the "Tenby Guide."





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Repair hat once to sympathetic Mace;
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With the new patent Æolean valve-ventilating,
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The wonder of the spheres, &c., &c., &c., best value 9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 13s. 6d.

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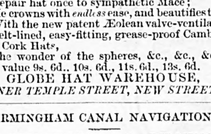

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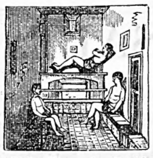

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CORKSCREW AND FANCY STEEL TOY MAKERS,
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WATCH MANUFACTORY,
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The Field, July 31 [691

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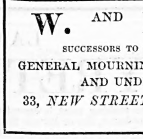

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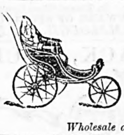

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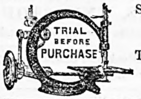

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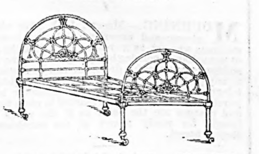

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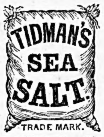

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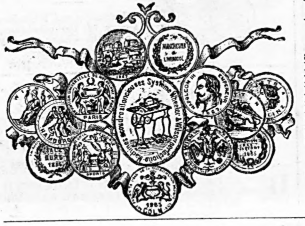

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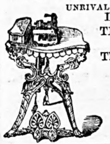

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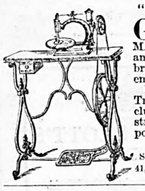

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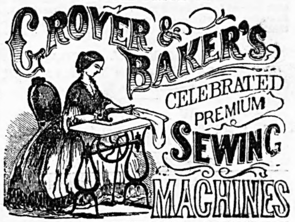

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